



SOCCER ACTION

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JIMMY ROONEY BOWS OUT

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

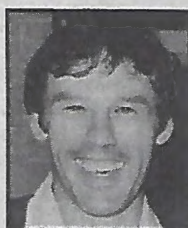
Jimmy Rooney slipped quietly into retirement last weekend but is widely tipped to be appointed coach of Victorian club Croydon City for the 1984 season with Gus Macleod as his assistant.

Rooney was substituted in the 68th minute playing for Croydon against Green Gully Ajax in the Dockerty Cup quarter-finals and few people realised, as Rooney trudged off the field, that this had been his swansong in competitive soccer.

The 37-year-old former Soccerroo captain, with 100 national team appearances to his name, second only to the great Peter Wilson who made 114 appearances, would have retired last year had he finished the season in NSW ranks with Heidelberg Alexander.

"That's the way I would have liked it — bowing out at the highest club level possible," Rooney said.

"I could go on, playing in the lower leagues, but that's not for me. There comes a time when you have to take a long, hard look at yourself and that time has come for me. I've



Jimmy Rooney

always set myself fairly high standards and, unfortunately, I'm no longer able to reach them.

"Some of the things I've been renowned for over the years, I'm no longer able to do, I'm not as young as I used to be, you know."

Rooney played with English club Peterborough and Scottish club Montrose before coming to Australia in 1968 to join the now defunct USC Lions in the Victorian State

League. He transferred to Prague in Sydney in 1970 and two seasons later switched to APIA for \$7,000.

"I had five great years at APIA. I had become an international with Prague but right in the middle of my stint with APIA I played with Australia in the 1974 World Cup finals — an unforgettable experience."

Rooney joined Marconi in 1977 then switched to Heidelberg Alexander in 1979. He was unceremoniously dumped by Heidelberg last year and joined Croydon City.

Journalists across Australia consistently have paid glowing tribute to Rooney's ability and professionalism. Justifiably so. His 16 seasons in Australian soccer have been crowned with personal and public glory. He has, at all times, been the model player, on and off the park.

Rooney leaves behind wonderful memories which never will be forgotten by thousands of soccer lovers in this country.

On their behalf, let me simply say, thanks Jimmy.



Jimmy Rooney leaves with a laugh, as Jim Williams of Ajax bares his behind while changing shorts on the pitch during the Dockerty Cup quarter-finals.



IT'S MILA'S MEDAL

Two years of dedication and heartbreak were rewarded when Stefan Mila (right) of Polonia won the Victorian Rothmans Medal last Thursday.

Mila left his wife Ursula (left) and daughter Katarina (second from right) behind in Poland when he came to Australia in early 1982. He wanted to save some money and make a home for them here before having them join him.

So he worked long hours in a factory,

and travelled by train the 40-odd miles from his home in Moorabbin to training in Mairiyrong.

It was a lonely time for him, made all the more painful because his son, Sebastian, was born in Poland during this time.

Finally, four months ago, Ursula, Katarina and Sebastian (on mum's knee) joined Stefan in Australia. Now, a happier man you couldn't find!

A photographer with a sense of humor reckons Mila has completed a Polish trifecta: first the Pope, then the Nobel Prize (Lech Walesa) and now the Rothmans Medal.

Make that a quadruple — because Jan Kurno of Polonia Adelaide won the South Australian Rothmans Medal only a few weeks ago.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

O'Connor is nation's No. 1

Phil O'Connor of Wollongong is Australia's No. 1 soccer player.

With one round to go, he has won the \$1500 prize in the Boral Bricks — "Soccer Action" national player of the year award.

The brilliant striker earned five votes for his display against Brisbane Lions last Sunday, leaving him eight ahead of second-placed Charlie Yankos (Heidelberg) who polled only two votes.

With a maximum of only six votes available to Yankos in the last round, he is unable to catch O'Connor, who won't play next week as Wollongong's league commitments are over for 1983.

O'Connor and Roy Cotton formed one of the most effective striking partnerships in the NSL, scoring 12 goals each. "It's the most successful partnership I've ever had with another forward," Connor said. "He's a great player. We were together at St. George too, but we didn't really click together there, because he was on one wing and I was one the other."

O'Connor said now that his contract with Wollongong had expired, he was open to offers. Asked whether he and Cotton may switch in a package deal, he said he doubted it. "If it did happen, it would have to be a Sydney club, because Roy's got a good job and he wouldn't move, whereas I'd go anywhere for the right offer," O'Connor, 29, said.

Asked whether 1983 had



Phil O'Connor

been his best season, O'Connor said: "It was one of my best, sure, but I think one of my years with APIA was even better."

O'Connor came to Australia in 1975 from England where he played for Luton Town. His first club here was the now defunct Wollongong City, from where he joined St. George Budapest for \$9000 in early 1977. He had scored 12 goals for Wollongong in 1976, and after joining Saints he scored eight in 1977, 11 in 1978, and seven in 1979. He then switched to APIA where he notched 10 in 1980 and seven in 1981. He

was Wollongong's top scorer with 16 in 1983, giving him a total of 71 in the NSL, and making him equal second to Gary Cole (Heidelberg) among the league's all-time top scorers. Mark Jankovic (Marconi) and John Kosmina (Sydney City Hakoah) also have 71.

O'Connor starred for Australia in its three-match series against England this year. His three appearances brought his total for Australia to 22, 15 of which have been in full international.

The "Soccer Action" Player of the Year award, dates back to 1976.

That year, it was split between NSW and Victoria, with Bruce Stowell of Pan Hellenic being the NSW winner and Steve Kokoska (Sunshine) the tops in Victoria.

Winners since then: 1977: Jimmy Rooney (Marconi); 1978: Ken Boden (Newcastle); 1979: Ivo Prskalo (Marconi); 1980 and 81: Jim Hermiston (Brisbane City); 1982: Peter Katholos (Sydney Olympic).

Progress voting page 5

Thrilling end
to the NSL:

St George
or
Makedonia?

— page 5

YOUNG ROOS TO AIS?

The Institute of Sport in Canberra is expected to assume much of the responsibility for the Australian youth team.

The ASF has suggested that the youth team should attend the Institute for training camps.

It also has suggested that the Institute, rather than the ASF, should finance the youth team's overseas tours, through Government cash.

This means that Australia may in future compete in the World Youth

Championships at the government's expense.

The ASF's commercial director, Peter Sheehan, said before leaving on a trip to London last week.

"Youth soccer, while it is no doubt a vehicle for chest-beating, has proved to be a commercial disaster, because the games are never played here."

He said a statement on the Institute's involvement was expected to be made soon.

Sheehan will try to organise at least

two Australian tours by overseas teams during his overseas trip.

He also will go to the U.S. to find out about the latest developments in indoor soccer there.

This suggests the ASF may be planning an indoor soccer tournament for 1984.

Sheehan said he would speak with European TV networks about the possibility of selling TV rights to games in Australia by touring teams.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

The West Berlin representative team will play against Victoria in early January.

The tour itinerary has not yet been finalised, but it will include games in Sydney and against Preston Makedonia at Connor Reserve, in Reservoir and Morwell Falcons in Morwell.

On its way to Australia, West Berlin will play several matches in China.

The touring squad is made up of the best players in the top Berlin leagues, and it will be led by the secretary-manager of the Berlin Soccer Federation, Wolfgang Levin.

Coach is former Bundesliga player Friedhelm Haebermann who was captain of Eintracht Braunschweig for two years.

The team's star forward is Harald Kaepnick (Blau Weiss 90) who was Berlin's top scorer with 30 goals last season.

The West Berlin squad, with players' ages and clubs: Holger Gehrke, 22, Blau-Weiss 90, formerly FC Saarbrücken; Norbert Henkle, 19, Hertha BSC; Michael Schmidt, 31, Hertha 13; Michael Fiedler, 23, Tennis Borussia; FC Saarbrücken; Mirko Misic, 23, Tennis Borussia; Alf Fislter, 18, Blau Weiss 90; Rainer Ecke, 26, Hertha BSC; Norbert Vogt, 21, Hertha BSC; Peter Stark, (capt), 29, Blau Weiss 90; Mario Mieling, 24, Tennis Borussia; Michael Horning, 27, Hertha 03; Rainer Schure, 28, Hertha 13 — 19 goals last season; Christian Mueller, 23, Blau Weiss 90, ex-MTV Ingolstadt; Leo Bunk, 21, Blau Weiss 90, ex-Munich 1860; Michael Enders, 20, Tennis Borussia; ex-VfB Stuttgart; Harald Kaepnick, 21, Blau Weiss 90, ex-Hamburger SV; Michael Schmidt, 20, Blau Weiss 90, ex-Hamburger SV; Peter Frassmann, 25, Tennis Borussia; Garry Rohrlack, 25, Hertha BSC; Reserves to make the trip in case of injuries: Michael Stenert, 27, Hertha 03; Kim Konrad, 29, Blau Weiss 90; Frank Gerhardt, 10, RSC Duisburg.



The West Berlin representative squad during a recent selection trial, from left, back row: Wolfgang Levin (secretary-manager, Berlin Federation), two other officials, K. Nagel, J. Kirschbaum, R. Sohre, M. Fiedler, A. Gehrman. Middle row: M. Misic, M. Enders, F. Schwabe, P. Frassmann, F. Schroeder, M. Horning, L. Knobel, P. Stark. Front row: F. Haebermann (coach), K. Konrad, R. Ecke, J. Rinko, N. Henkel, R. Schure, M. Gerhardt, M. Kaepnick.

W. Berlin
to meet
Victoria,
Makedonia

World Cup ruled by television

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN

Get ready, once again, for some dawn awakenings — or taking sickies — when the 1986 World Cup finals roll along.

The Mexican Organising Committee has proposed to start all matches at 11 am, 12 noon, 3 pm and 4 pm.

Not that this is the ideal time of day in the hot Mexican climate — but because European TV channels insist.

This way in Europe the matches will be screened 'live' the same evening, at 7 pm, 8 pm, 11 pm or midnight. Mexico is about eight hours behind Europe.

Now, as Mexico is some 17 hours behind Australia (not to mention other things), viewers in the Eastern States will have to rise at 4 am or 5 am —

or start watching at 8 am and 9 am — all, of course, the following day.

FIFA has yet to agree on the final format of the World Cup.

It seems certain that there will be 24 finalists. The 24 teams are likely to be placed in six groups of four teams where they play a round robin.

The two top countries (a total of 12) would qualify — as well as the four "best" third-placemen, based on points and goals.

The remaining 16 teams would then proceed on a knock-out basis — one loss and you're out.

It is absolutely certain that the draw will be "seeded" (FIFA's terminology) or "arranged" (mine). Teams from Africa, Asia, Oceania, etc. will be spread out in the six groups: if Australia qualifies, we could have two European and one South American country in our group.

Giving England a treat

The phone rang; it was the voice of an excited soccer-father-coach on the line.

"Have I got a story for you," he said in a conspiratorial voice.

"Oh yes?" I said, trying to remain calm.

"Oh yes," he said. "And we'd like you to write about it. You wanna know?"

"I'm dying to know."

"Well, and he took a deep breath, 'I'm calling from the Cranberry Eagles Junior Club. Heard about it?'"

"Not recently, no."

"You will. Because we have just decided to send one of our teams to England in January. Isn't it marvelous?"

"It is," I said. "Which team?"

"Our Under 10s which finished a creditable 6th in the comp but should have come at least 5th."

"And what will they be doing in England?" I asked. "Are they staying there for good?"

"Of course not. They'll be playing some matches against their age groups, we don't know yet where but at least three or four games are certain."

"And is that worth the expense?"

"My oath it is. They will be playing against some of the world's best Under-10 teams."

"How do you finance the trip?"

"The kids have been collecting bottles, washing cars and holding functions for months," the voice said. "We're also accepting donations."

"That's nice of you."

"Thank you. Now, we feel that if we could have some publicity, perhaps people may come forward and help a bit."

"You feel that it's really vital to send 10-year-olds to play in England in mid-winter?"

"Well," he said pensively, "why not England? We've been everywhere now, Bankstown, Engadine and Hornsby, so we thought England would be nice. That's what the parents wanted, too."

"Any parents going with the team?"

"Any parents?" he gasped. "We have 34 parents signed up already."

"And how many players?"

"Sixteen."

"What will the parents be doing there?"

"We'll do a bit of sight-seeing, you know, The Tower, The Wax Museum, Soho..."

"Wouldn't it be more fun if you left the 16 kids at home?"

"Can't do that," he said, "otherwise how will the children learn soccer?"

"True," I agreed. "How will they?"

"So will you write something on this tour? Promise?"

"Well, I promised I would and I have."

I merely changed the name to protect the idiot.

Brazil tops

Brazil, the aristocrat of world soccer, won a four-nation friendly tournament by beating South Korea 1-0 before some 25,000 fans in Seoul.

It was a sweet revenge for the young Brazilians who lost to the hosts by an identical margin in a preliminary match.

The Brazilians scored the lone goal in the 37th minute when midfielder Augimar Silva, blasted a free kick into the net.

The other participating countries in the week-long contest were Argentina and Mexico.



Some of the past Rothmans Medal winners, from left: John Gardner, David Baker, Pat Bannon, Minister of Sport Neil Trezise, Vince Bannon, Tommy Cumming, Jim Tansey and Bobby McGuinness. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.



A handshake that symbolises the new spirit of co-operation between the VSF and the NSL. At left: VSF chairman Michael Weinstein, with NSL chairman Sam Pappasavas, and NSL official Tony Kovac.



Fawkner president Schipano offers a toast. With him are Fawkner players, from left: Joe Palinkas, Ian Tuffield, and Cesare Fatore.



LEFT: Albion Rovers coach Hugh Murney (right) and team manager Joe Docherty (left) joke with Morwell Falcons president Don DiFabrizio. BELOW: The Juventus table, from left: Sam Manenti (president), Andrew Zinni, Billy Rogers, Joe Caruso (team manager), John Margaritis (coach) and Harry Hird.



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Cut that yellow hysteria!

Quite a few sensible reforms are likely to be introduced next year in the NSL. More about them later.

But I'd like to suggest another one for consideration.

And this is to suggest another one for consideration.

And this is the abolition of the yellow and red card system.

Its introduction at a World Cup — in 1974 — was prompted by confusion at international level, due to language problems.

Often players didn't know whether they had been cautioned — or merely warned.

The yellow card erased that doubt. This became the international symbol of caution.

Frankly, I couldn't see much point in adopting the system for domestic leagues — but almost all countries did, probably for the sake of uniformity.

Then, last year, the Football Association (of England) dropped

the system and returned to the old one under which referees "book" players — caution them verbally and then write down their names in their little book.

And this is exactly what we should do, too, for many reasons.

An obsession has grown up among fans with the "yellow card". Every time a foul is committed (by the opponent, of course), they scream for the referee to flash it.

The card has become a symbol of punishment or humiliation, a milder form of public execution.

Far too many referees also use it as a weapon of their authority; the worst types almost shove it into the player's face.

The card provides new roles for referees with a flair for the theatrical.

All the suppressed and latent yearnings for authority now gain an expression in the flashing of a card, held high, as if to say:

"I'm the boss, this is the culprit."



Diego Maradona

• The Spanish Federation has ousted Atletico Bilbao's defender Antonio Giccochea for 18 matches for a simple foul on the far from simple soccer God, Maradona.

Through the services of Channel 9, I saw the incident: it was nothing more or less than a dozen fouls committed in the NSL every weekend.

Maradona just got the ball and Giccochea arrived a fraction late with his sliding tackle.

I'm sure that the hapless Basque defender would have escaped even a mention had his victim been somebody else and not the divine Diego.

Still, I feel there is some poetic justice involved here — and it's well worth thinking about it.

Maradona broke his leg in the tackle and will be out for some four months — 17 weeks.

Giccochea caused the injury — and will be out for the same period. If we had such a rule in soccer — and not just for superstars but for every player — a great deal of today's "masculine" tackling could vanish.

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it's up to me to maintain order and civilisation here."

But the most dangerous aspect of the card-system is that some referees use it as an additional punishment.

When a foul is committed — and in this contact sport that's unavoidable — referees can award a freekick, or a penalty.

Cautions are for extreme cases; they should not be regarded a substitute for freekicks.

But when a referee has the cards in his pocket, the temptation is there to show the player a yellow card — even if the same offence, in the past, would have been adequately covered with a freekick and a talking to.

At the recent Marconi v Sydney City match seven players were cautioned — and it was a very ordinary game by physical standards.

Then how turn on your TV and watch games played in England where players rush into one another at 100 miles an hour — and the referee waves play on.

If the English referees used the weapon of caution with the same glib abandon as ours do, I guess 15 to 20 of players in every match would be booked and within two months clubs would have to use their youth teams, with the others serving suspensions.

Please don't get me wrong and write a tirade to the editor claiming that I encourage murder and mayhem on the field; I don't.

What I'm trying to discourage is a mindless, robot-like reaction to every foul — particularly when some totally biased fans scream their head off demanding a "yellow-card".

As long as we keep the card-system, some of our more impressionable referees will continue to use this weapon not to serve justice but a appease crowd.

Let referees enforce the laws of the game, let them stamp out dangerous play — but let them do it quietly, without this yellow hysteria.

And let the referees be the only ones who know whether a player has been booked or not apart from the player himself.

Right now, once a player has been shown a yellow card, he continues play as if on public trial with the crowd eagerly egging him into another caution — and expulsion.

Soccer is a sport, not a circus — and referees are there to maintain order, not to chuck players to the proverbial lions.

Let's hope the NSL bosses — or the majority, anyway — will agree with my reasoning and banish the cards, preferably for good.

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Talent drains with the cash

American bankers around Wall Street, New York, are terribly worried about the economy of Brazil and Argentina who owe various banks some \$150 billion.

I am worried, too. Actually, they owe me nothing: I decided long ago not to lend them a single peso or cruzeiro. And yet I am uneasy about the whole thing.

If the economy of these two countries keeps sliding towards bankruptcy — their once magical soccer will suffer.

Almost all the top players from Brazil and Argentina have already switched to Europe: Falcao, Cerezo, Zico, Batista, Ardiles, Maradona, Passarella, Bertoni, Kempes Diaz, and a lot of others are now with Italian, Spanish or English teams.

time. It's only a matter of time before the rest — Socrates, Eder, Junior, Luisinho, you name it — also will switch for the stronger lira, peseta or pound sterling.

Already it seems doubtful whether Brazil and Argentina can build totally new teams for the 1986 World Cup final.

The Italian and Spanish clubs, where the stars' fortunes — such as Falcao's \$800 000 a year — won't be keen to release them for the elimination matches and to produce another almost complete generation of such stars is beyond even the powers of these super-powers.

If you feel you can help — if you can spare that measly \$15C billion — please contact Wall Street; you will go down as soccer's great benefactor.

Secret recruits on way from Poland

MEDALLIST MILA WANTS POLONIA IN NSL

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Victoria's 1983 Rothmans Medallist Stefan Mila believes his club, Polonia, should be in the NSL next season.

"We have four or five high-gauly players," he said through interpreter Milan Cvijic, the former J.U.S.T. goalkeeper. "But we need one or two good sponsors to help us financially, and we could use a couple of new players."

Mila pointed out that Polonia was negotiating for two players from Poland but when asked who they were, he said: "It is a club secret."

We spoke to Mila the day after the presentation night, which he was unable to attend because he had the flu. It was his team manager, John Pater, who brought him the medal and the good news late on Thursday night.

Pater too feels that Polonia should be included in the NSL next season because, as the first Polish team in the league, it would represent an entirely new market.

But other clubs were pushing their case for promotion just as hard. Various clubs were seen speaking with NSL representatives Sam Pappas and Tony Kovac.

Mila won the medal in a close tussle with Tommy Cumming (Croatia) who finished two points behind, in second place. Cumming also had finished second in the Bill Fleming Medal, won by Paul Lewis of Ajax.

Mila said he felt honored and proud. He said he had not given himself much of a chance against Cumming and Paul Lewis both of whom he described as excellent players.

Asked how it felt to be the first European player to win the medal, he repeated: "I feel very proud." He added he would like to see more Continental players in the league, to lift the standard of skill.

"Last year the standard was better than this year," he said.

Mila is easily distinguished on the field. He always wears a bandage around his right hand, because he's self-conscious about having had three fingers cut off in an accident.

He is one of four top-class Polish imports in the Polonia team. The others are striker Janusz Przytyla, left back Mirek Smolarek and goalkeeper Leszek Dzielakowski who is also player-coach.

Mila plays with the flair and skill one would expect from a man who played 12 games for Poland's Olympic team, and who starred for Gwardia Warsaw.

He also had trial games for the national 'A' squad but was beaten by Kucpewicz for a midfield position and Piechaczek for the libero post.

Mila was favorite for the Rothmans Medal last year, but was beaten into third place by Vince Bannon (Juventus) and Jim Train (Doveton). He was four points behind Bannon, but he also missed five games.

Mila, 32, does not drink or smoke, and intends to play for at least four more years. Now that he's finally been joined by his wife and children (see page one) he intends to make Australia his permanent home.



Polonia team manager John Pater (right) accepts the Rothmans Medal from the Minister of Sport, Mr. Trezise, on behalf of Stefan Mila.



Stefan Mila in action for Polonia



Flashback to 1982: Mila (right), who finished third, with Rothmans Medallist Vince Bannon (centre) and runner-up Jim Train

ALL THE VOTES

- Denotes player suspended - not eligible for award
35. S. Mila (Pol)
23. T. Cumming (Cro)
29. G. Bozakis (Nor)
23. W. Rogers (Juva), G. Hobson (Croy), Paul Lewis (AJ), B. Toal (AJ), S. Culina (Nor)
22. K. Adams (Cro)
20. C. Gilder (SGC)
19. D. Brooks (Wilt)
16. O. Latif (Cro)
15. P. Verachia (BH), P. Corke (Dove)
14. H. Hind (Juva), C. Fattore (Faw)
13. G. French (Juva), N. Pate (SGC)
12. V. Bannon (Juva), P. Wade (Croy), I. Tuffield (Faw), J. Williams (AJ), S. O'Reilly (SGC)
11. P. Drinczyk (Juva), S. Webster (Croy), S. Peter Lewis (AJ), S. Short (AJ), S. D. Brogan (Cro), R. McGuinness (Mor)
10. F. Incantupo (Juva), J. Palankas (Faw), A. Casprik (Pol), A. Irvine (Mor), K. Kalitashid (Hel)
9. K. Coyle (AJ), J. Gabrielson, D. Lawler, S. R. Mirand (B.H.), J. Rooney (Croy), S. H. Bingham (Mor)
8. S. Ferris (AJ), K. Lloyd (Juva), S. M. Rainey (Croy), S. Keogh (Dove), A. Schipano (Faw)
7. J. Sweeney (Croy), G. Watson (Dove), J. Train (Mor), J. Sahinidis, S. Wright (Nor), K. Stewart (Wilt)
6. T. Costello, K. Smart (Alb), A. Zinni (Juva), I. Roodhouse (BH), I. Stilton (Dove), S. Cozzella (Faw), L. Dzielakowski (Pol), J. O'Callaghan, S. W. Whiteside (Mor)
5. L. Murphy (Alb), J. Nelson (Juva), B. Kenworthy, M. McDonald, P. Priestley, P. Ramos, R. Taylor (B.H.), S. P. Loughnane, S. McComb (Croy), P. Thurtlow (Dove), J. Kondarinos (Faw), J. Fawcett, S. Gojovic, S. Parton (Cro), A. Evans (Mor), N. Garvey, S. Verniers (Wilt), G. Bennett, A. Centini (SGC), K. Kakoritis, J. Kalambokis (Hel)
4. G. Bannon (Juva), D. Az-zopardo, D. Brownlie, A. Hughes (BH), A. MacLeod (Croy), M. Lennon, G. Waterhouse (Dove), A. Boskalis, A. Mainardi, R. Terzini (Faw), G. Hogben (AJ), T. Krysiak, A. Marshall, G. Petrov (Pol), T. Carcio (Cro), S. J. MacLean (Mor), M. Wilson (Nor), S. Burton (Wilt), M. McGorlan (SGC), J. Kanioullis (Hel)
3. P. Dickson, G. Reilly, S. D. Hennessy (Alb), S. P. Bannon (Juva), S. Brown (Croy), S. W. Buchanan, S. D. Smallman, W. Vassallo (AJ), B. Lakkic, M. Smolarek (Pol), B. Darby (Mor), S. Moore, S. Taetsoe (Nor), F. Haudt, B. Thom (Wilt), K. Kerr, F. Russell, S. Richardson, C. Taylor (SGC), P. Abraham, D. Cummings (Hel)
2. A. Bennett, E. Grey, C. Grey, S. McLeod (Alb), A. McKenna (BH), S. Irvine, S. Marley, T. Nolan (Croy), J. Dowling (Dove), R. Petruscelli, S. C. Szidusai (Faw), D. McCusker (Pol), T. Van Baar, E. Young (Mor), S. C. Gully (Nor), D. Gibson (Wilt), R. Bala, J. Stevenson (SGC), V. Botinowski, B. Buljevic, A. Neep, J. Yasendoom (Hel)
1. S. Douglas, M. D'Sylva, W. McIntyre, D. Lacoac (Alb), K. Swinacoe (Juva), J. McKinnley, S. K. Patterson (BH), G. McLeod (Dove), A. Anselma, C. Petrov (Faw), S. Canner (AJ), J. Trent (Pol), P. Blaney (Cro), E. Jansson (Wilt), H. McKinnley (SGC), D. Brown, M. P'ere, M. Turudie (Hel)

KAT'S CORNER with PETER KATHOLOS



The other side of The Doc

Tommy Docherty certainly has been having his share of problems.

Telecom in Sydney has been chasing him to pay a phone bill of more than \$700.

And the police in England are after him for about \$8000 he owes his former wife in maintenance.

The Doc claims he hasn't had a chance to earn anything since returning to England, and that his time in Australia had been like "semi-retirement".

I reckon \$60,000 is not a bad salary for semi-retirement. What do you reckon?

I wonder how many people fell for the Doc's antics.

I certainly didn't, as I experienced the other side of Docherty on my trip to England last year.

It was a costly lesson for me, and I'm afraid Sydney Olympic experienced a similar lesson.

Docherty was nice to me during his first stint as Olympic's coach, and when he re-



Tommy Docherty

ned to England to become manager of Preston North End, he invited me out for a trial.

Well, I paid my own fare - about \$2000 - and when I lobbied at Preston, the club knew nothing at all about me. Docherty hadn't even told them I was coming.

That was a Tuesday. He was sacked on the Wednesday, and that was the end of me.

The club kicked me out of my digs, telling me to organise my own lodgings.

I asked the Doc for help, but he didn't want to help me.

I'd travelled all that way just to be dumped.

Greeks on way up

The once-mighty Ajax Amsterdam of Johan Cruyff and Ruud Krol fame, was knocked out of the first round of the European Cup recently by Olympiakos of Greece.

Olympiakos, now under the leadership of former FC Koeln coach Heinz Hoehner, won the second leg 2-0 in extra time, to advance to the next round, with both goals coming from international Nikos Anagnostopoulos who was the third-highest scorer in Europe in the 1982/83 season.

Greek soccer certainly is on the improve, with a lot of foreign coaches and players, like Rene van der Kerkhof, Trevor Ross and Wilt Erickson.

"Soccer Action" award tops

Congratulations to Charlie Yankos, Con Opatosin, Peter Ollerton and Peter Lewis on winning the major Victorian Press (ASP) awards.

Ali had a memorable season and deserve recognition.

Yankos, with 45 votes, beat second-placed Zerk Odrakov (Makedonia) by only five votes. Odrakov is, in my opinion, one of the best imports yet to come to this country.

I wouldn't be surprised if Yankos and Odrakov, along with Phil O'Connor of Wollongong, top the poll in the NSL Player of the Year voting.

Yankos and Odrakov are leading in the "Soccer Action" Boral Bricks Player of the Year award, and in all but one season since the NSL started, the winner of the "Soccer Action" award went on to win the NSL award as well - Jimmy Rooney, Jim Hermonston, Ivo Prskalo for example.

It's no wonder then, that the "Soccer Action" award is the most prestigious in Australia. All players I know in the NSL make a point of getting the paper every week to check on the voting.

Ollerton plots against world

Peter Ollerton, voted Victorian coach of the year last week, will lead the England team in the 16-national "World Cup" tournament to be run by Knox City from November 12 to December 3.

Medibank Private will sponsor the competition with \$1000, and also donate a trophy for the winner.

The 16 contestants are: Italy, Hungary, Holland, Poland, Malta, Greece, Yugoslavia, Germany, England, Scotland, Ireland, Turkey, South Africa, Australia, Brazil and "Hispania" - a team of Spanish speaking players who will wear the Argentine colors.

Players must have been born in the country for which they play, or at least his parents must have been born there.

Mick and Noel Mitten will organise the Ireland team.



Peter Ollerton

Ricky Dizio is in charge of Italy, and Con Nikolopoulos is co-ordinating Greece. Footscrew J.U.S.T. is putting together the Yugoslavia team.

Top Greeks v. top Italians

The 1983 Victorian Hellenic Cup competition kicks off on Sunday, November 11.

The winner will meet the winner of the Italian Cup in early January, with the proceeds going to charity.

A best player award and a top scorer award will be run during the Hellenic Cup.

The groupings are: GROUP ONE: Hellas, Port Melbourne, Malvern City, Hawthorn, Apollo Unit.

GROUP TWO: Serres, Clifton Hill, Clifton Hill YCW, SM Mordialloc, Central City.

GROUP THREE: Heidelberg-Alexander, South Oakleigh, Western Suburbs, Murrumbidgee, Ascot Vale.

GROUP FOUR: Yarraville, Northcote, Caulfield, Clarendon, Brunswick City.

Quarter-finals will be on December 4, semi-finals on December 11 and the final on December 18.

Yallourn's Cup

Victorian Third Division club Yallourn, won the 13th annual Mallee Cup by beating NSW opponent Hornsby RSL 3-0 on penalties. Scores at the end of full time and extra time, were 1-1.

The award for the best and fairest player went to Rob Stuart of Manly Warringah. Stuart was a guest player with Brookvale for this competition.

The Goalkeeper of the Tournament was "Spider" McGinnis. Three other goalkeepers tied for the runner-up: Peter Thompson (Fernhill), Mark Francis (Inter Monaro), guesting with Mallee United, and Yallourn's van Raza.

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St. George or Makedonia?

Victorians never have won in Sydney!

Preston Makedonia has not won a single match in Sydney since it entered the NSL in 1981, but if it finally breaks the ice on Sunday, it may win the league championship.

What a success story that would be!

In only its third NSL season, Makedonia led the league for most of the season, slumped to fourth place after four successive defeats, and roared back to the top last Sunday, by thrashing West Adelaide Hellas 3-0 while its nearest rivals dropped points.

But St. George Budapest's title bid in the last round was as strong, if not stronger than Makedonia's.

It has the advantage of playing at home, against Brisbane City, a less talented opponent than Sydney Olympic.

Going into the last round, St. George coach Frank Arok said: "The game is the equiva-

By LAURIE SCHWAB

lent of a grand final. Only the exceptional fighters can survive and win. The team has been together for two years, with only one change when Scottish international Ted MacDougall played six matches with us. This is our team's greatest test yet."

But whatever Arok says about St. George holds true also of Makedonia.

Like St. George, Makedonia, in essence, has been together for quite a while. Peter Ollerton, Ljube Petrovski, Gordon Flavell, George McMillan and Claude Lucchesi — not to mention Gary Ward who's out injured — were in the team that won the 1980 State League championship. Con Opasins came up through the juniors and is completing his second senior season. Goalkeeper Richard Wilson has three seasons with the club under his belt, and David Jones and George Todorovski two each. That leaves Zoran Ilioski and Zarko Odzakov as the new

boys — both in their first season.

That lot easily can match the collective experience of St. George stalwarts like the three O'Shea brothers, Dez Marton, David Ratcliffe, Terry Greedy, Peter Stone and Paul Wilkinson.

But they're not playing against each other, of course. Rather, they'll be trying to outdo each other in separate matches.

At the moment, Makedonia and St. George are equal on points at the top, and also equal on goal difference. Makedonia however, has scored more goals than St. George, so if both of them win by say, 2-0, this week, Makedonia would win the championship.

On the other hand, if St. George wins by two goals and Makedonia by only one, then Saints would take the title on goal difference.

Venues for the vital matches in the last round had not been determined as we went to Press.

Sydney Olympic and St. George were both scheduled to play at home on St. George Stadium — which would be impossible unless they play as a double-header.

But that would leave either St. George or Makedonia with the advantage of knowing exactly how much they would have to win by in order to take the championship.

The NSL management committee decided that all matches affecting the championship should kick off at 3pm.

That means either St. George or Olympic would play on St. George Stadium, with the other team moving to either Lambert Park or Marconi Stadium.

In the case of one of those games being played at the latter ground, the Marconi v West Adelaide game would kick off early, as it has no bearing on the championship.

But let's not rule out the possibility of both St. George and Makedonia dropping points at the weekend. If both are held to draws, the title could go to Sydney Hakoah, SM-Hellas or even Newcastle.

That's right, Newcastle. Although they're in fifth position, they could win the title on goal difference by beating Heidelberg-Alexander while the top four lose their matches. Unlikely, but possible.

Statistically, St. George is home and hosted against Brisbane City, as the Queenslanders haven't won for eight weeks. Their last victory was 3-0 against Sydney Olympic, while team Makedonia has to beat

And Olympic's last victory was against Makedonia itself — at Connor Reserve five weeks ago, when Marshall Seger scored the winning goal.

Weekend NSL games with likely winners in capitals:

SUNDAY

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER v Newcastle KB United

NSL team of the week

In brackets: No. of appearances in team of week.

SPROUL (1) (WA Hellas)

PETROVSKI (1) (Makedonia)

MACLEOD (2) (Heidelberg)

FLAVELL (1) (Makedonia)

McMILLAN (4) (Makedonia)

LEA (3) (Heidelberg)

LUCCHESI (5) (Makedonia)

OLLERTON (3) (Makedonia)

H. TREDINNICK (2) (Newcastle)

ODONNELL (1) (JUST)

BORAL BRICKS

We can help you build it.

With Phil O'Connor (Wollongong) having won the Boral Bricks \$1500 Player of the Year award (see page one), interest switches to the \$1000 top scorer award.

Marshall Seger (Olympic) caught up with leader Doug Brown (SM-Hellas) who did not play due to suspension last weekend. Both have 14 goals going into the last round, hotly pursued by John Kosmina (Sydney Hakoah) with 13.

In case of a tie, all penalty goals will be deducted. If it still is a tie, Cup goals will count.

This week's votes:

PRESTON MAKEDONIA

3 (Ollerton 3) WEST ADELAIDE

HELLAS 0 at Connor Reserve. Crowd about 1000.

Votes by Laurie Schwab.

y. McMillan (Mak), 5.

Lucchesi (Mak), 4. Ollerton

(Mak), 3. Petrovski (Mak),

2. Odzakov (Mak), 1. Flavell

(Mak).

WOLLONGONG 1 (Cotton)

BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Hag-

hes, Hummel own goal)

CANBERRA ARROWS 3

(Christopoulos, Farina, T.

Byrne) at Spencer Park.

Crowd about 1000. Votes by

Ricky Rosso:

6. T. Byrne (C), 5. Fabr-

izio (BC), 4. Christopoulos

(C), 3. Perry (BC), 2. Gibson

(C), 1. Ambrosino (C).

ADELAIDE CITY JU-

VENTUS 3 (Blair, Melita,

Carter) at Wollongong

Showgrounds. Crowd about

1000. Votes by Frank Pangallo:

6. O'Donnell (JUST); 5.

Flounders (AC), 4. Blair

(AC), 3. B. Nyskohus (AC),

2. Carroll (JUST), 1. Melita

(AC).

HEIDELBERG-ALEX-

ANDER 4 (Cole pen., Pat-

terson, Campbell, Lea)

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1

(Soper pen.) at Olympic Vil-

lage. Crowd about 2,200.

Votes by Peter Desira:

6. Macleod (H), 5. Lea

(H), 4. Oliver (H), 3. Patikas

(SO), 2. Yankos (H), 1. Pat-

terson (H).

NEWCASTLE KB

UNITED 1 (Senkalski)

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 0

FIELD 2 (M. O'Shea own

goal, Brown) at St. George

Stadium. Crowd 2870. Votes

by Peter Scott:

6. Djordjevic (M), 5.

Marton (St G), 4. Henderson

(M), 3. Winn (M), 2. Rat-

cliffe (St G), 1. Licata (M).

Leaders:

85. O'Connor (W)

07. Yankos (H)

67. Odzakov (Mak)

64. Ratcliffe (St G)

63. Davidson (SM)

61. P. Tredinnick (APIA)

60. Henderson (Marc)

58. Bradley (APIA)

57. Banfield (AC) f 15.

Kyriakoulas (JUST), J.

Watson (SC), Skelton (St G)

54. Wright (BL), Heys

(WA), Sermani (Marc)

53. Lowe (N), Crino (SM)

52. Burke (N)

50. Bryant (C)

49. Jones (Mak)

48. Farina (C)

46. Mariani (APIA)

McMillan (Mak), Greedy

(St G), T. Byrne (C).

44. Carroll (JUST)

34. Hozowski (C)

41. G. Watson (N), Patikas

(SO)

40. Bertogna (APIA), B.

Nyskohus (AC), R. Stewart

(BL)

39. Vlietstra (W)

38. Tokesi (BC), Lucchesi

(Mak), Honeyman (WA),

Halford (SM)

37. Perry (BC), Robertson

(SC), Lea (H), Katholos

(SO), Murphy (SM)

36. Hamilton, Wishart

(BC), Senkalski (N)

35. Melita, Flounders

(AC)

Top scorers:

14. Soper (SO), Brown

(SM)

13. Kosmina (SC)

12. Bradley (APIA), O'

Connor, Cotton (W)

11. Paton (JUST), Egan

(SM)

10. Mullah (AC), Lucchesi

(Mak), Wright (BL), Lea

(H)

9. Lowe (N), R. Brown

(Marc), Ward (Mak), Slater

Marton (St G)

8. Mountford (N), Ollerton

(Mak), J. Campbell (H),

Bryant (C)



Preston Makedonia. Back row: David Jones, Gary Ward, George McMillan, George Todorovski, Peter Ollerton, Richard Wilson. Front row: Zarko Odzakov, Alec Livingston, Ljube Petrovski, George Campbell, Zoran Ilioski, Claude Lucchesi. Missing: Gordon Flavell, Con Opasins.



St. George. Back row: John O'Shea, David Ratcliffe, Paul Wilkinson, Terry Greedy, Rob O'Shea, Dez Marton. Front row: Peter Stone, David Skeen, Mark Barton, Mike O'Shea, Robbie Slater. Missing: Peter Petrovski.

at Olympic Village, 3pm.

Record: H'berg 4 wins, 4 draws, 3

losses, 20-17 goals.

Footscray J.U.S.T. v APIA

LEICHHARDT at Schintler

Reserve, 3 pm.

Record: JUST 4 wins, 1 draw,

4 losses, 12-10 goals.

ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST v

Brisbane City, venue to be de-

termined.

Record: St. George 6 wins, 3

draws, 2 losses, 17-14 goals.

Sydney Olympic v PRE-

STON MAKEDONIA, venue to be

determined.

Record: Makedonia 2 wins, 1

draw, 2 losses, 10-7 goals.

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD v

West Adelaide Hellas at Mar-

coni Stadium.

Record: Marconi 9 wins, 1

draw, 3 losses, 15-10 goals.

Brisbane Lions v SOUTH

MELBOURNE HELLAS at

Richlands, 3 pm.

Record: Hellas 7 wins, 2 draws,

4 losses, 17-14 goals.

Canberra Arrows v SYDNEY

CITY HAKOAH at Bruce Sta-

dium, 3pm.

Record: Hakoah 9 wins, 1

draw, 3 losses, 24-14 goals.

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National League standings

Last week's standings in brackets.

		HOME					AWAY					Gls	Pts
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
1.	(4) Preston Makedonia	11	2	2	32	13	4	5	5	15	18	47:31	52
2.	(2) StGeorge Budapest	7	6	1	21	11	7	4	4	22	16	43:27	52
3.	(1) Sydney City Hakoah	10	4	0	27	6	4	5	5	16	22	43:28	51
4.	(3) South Melbourne Hellas	8	3	4	22	18	7	3	4	20	16	42:34	51
5.	(5) Newcastle KB United	7	4	4	20	9	7	3	4	24	15	44:24	49
6.	(9) Heidelberg-Alexander	8	2	4	23	14	2	8	5	14	23	37:37	40
7.	(7) APIA-Leichhardt	9	3	3	28	12	2	2	10	14	23	42:35	38
8.	(8) Marconi-Fairfield	6	5	3	24	18	6	6	8	18	20	42:38	38
9.	(6) Sydney Olympic	6	3	6	22	19	5	2	7	14	17	36:36	38
10.	(10) Canberra Arrows	8	3	3	27	14	3	2	10	18	34	45:48	38
11.	(12) Adelaide City Juventus	7	3	6	21	17	3	3	8	16	21	37:38	36
12.	(11) Footscray J.U.S.T.	6	4	4	16	19	3	4	8	12	22	24:41	35
13.	(13) Brisbane City	4	5	6	21	25	4	4	6	12	21	33:46	33
14.	(14) West Adelaide Hellas	5	6	4	16	17	1	6	7	6	19	22:36	30
15.	(15) Wollongong	1	11	3	19	20	3	4	8	22	33	41:55	27

Could this be the end for Adelaide City Juventus?

Adel. City 3 J.U.S.T. 0

Scorers: Blair 3rd, Mella 49th, Carter 63rd.
Referee: Jim Rossis (8)
ADELAIDE CITY JUVENUS: McNally 7, Shillaber 7; Flounders 8; Nyskohous 8; Dodds 7; Mella 7; Blair 8; Carter 7; Mullen 7; Villani 7; Rankin 7.

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.: Boland 6; McDowell 7; Kyriakoulas 6; Turtill 6; Bolic 6; Curovic 7; Carroll 8; Paton 7; O'Donnell 9; Taylor 6; Hazabant 7 (Turtill 43).

Sending offs: Kyriakoulas (40), Bolic (44) for J.U.S.T. Mullen (44) for City.
Cautions: McDowell, Hazabant, Paton, O'Donnell, Curovic (all J.U.S.T.)

Adelaide City Juventus finished a disappointing season on a sensational note against a brutal Footscray J.U.S.T.

Rarely has Adelaide witnessed three send offs and string of cautions that led to an unruly disturbance just before half time.

Juventus — as always — opened stylishly and within 20 minutes had J.U.S.T. reeling with goals from midfielders Stewart Blair and Serge Mella.

Then the kicking, behind-play elbows and fists came into it, reducing the match to a shambles and a travesty of soccer.

Referee Jim Rossis did what he could to retain control and his issuing of red and yellow cards was the best measure to take to ensure some kind of sanity prevailed.

Kyriakoulas was the first to go after a late and careless tackle.

While Rossis was quick to see that infringement, he missed the smack across the face youngster Joe Mullen received from a J.U.S.T. defender. Mullen was needed out of the game by some obnoxious tactics that eventually led to the all-in brawl when Mullen and Curovic were left sprawled in the Footscray box.

Fists flew — as did heads — as Villani clashed with J.U.S.T. keeper Dennis Boland after seeing Boland strike out at Mullen who was trying to get to his feet. Mullen and Bolic received their

By FRANK PANGALLO

Marching orders, the former's being somewhat questionable. But the threat of a bloodbath subsided in a second half that lacked the action of the first... both physically and in method.

City should have wiped the floor with J.U.S.T. and had the chances in front of goal to do so but wasted them.

But, to J.U.S.T.'s credit, it did try to make a game of it despite the glaring disadvantage.

Even after Carter had sealed Footscray's fate, following a nice touch by Villani, Footscray pressed forward time and time again. In fact, J.U.S.T. had the better of City in the second half although the Melbourne side never looked like threatening McNally in the City goal.

City again compounded into a disjointed team after promising so much

early in the piece. Fortunately a resilient defence flounders and the ever-reliable Nyskohous had the measure of Footscray's feeble attack.

City's season has ended under a cloud. It still isn't clear that the club will clear up in next year's regionalised league — even though it has made that commitment. Club management is due to report to its members on a radical plan to sell the club to shareholders, a move intended to save off City's patient creditors.

But the club is in such a financial mire that even the most ardent members believe all may be in vain.

On top of that, City's coach Bob Ferguson, has vowed to quit unless the club buys him two or three players next season.

Rather a callous ultimatum when one considers the plight of the club.

So with City's financial resources drawn well past breaking point, it seems Ferguson may be looking for a new job.

Ferguson is indeed right in what he says. The club does need an injection of players... but hardly those he has mentioned to the press.

City's crisis is partly a result of a club losing its ethnic identity, from management through to playing strength. West Adelaide Hellas seems to have already acknowledged that problem following its latest playing and coaching moves.

City had an aggregate crowd attendance of almost 100,000 in 1977. This year the club will be lucky if that figure is anywhere near a quarter of that.

When seventy-odd thousand turn their backs on a club, surely a complete reappraisal from top to bottom is needed.

I was laughed at when at one City members meeting, I suggested that the club had all but lost its Italian connection.

With its membership down and the crowds, continually dismal, may I have the courtesy of having the final laugh?

Throwing cautions to the wind!

Heidelberg 4 Olympic 1



Peter Desira

Scorers: 1-0 Cole 37m pon, 2-0 Patterson 41m, 3-0 Campbell 45m, 4-0 Lea 53m, 4-1 Soper 67m pon.

Ground: Olympic Village Attendance: 2,200 (estimate)

Referee: Jim Fearn 9

Cautions: MacLeod, MacKie

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 9; MacKie 8, Yankos 8, MacLeod 9 (Tansy 82m) Spanos 7; Selemdis 7, Campbell 7, Valentini 7; Lea 5, Cole 7, Patterson 8; Coach: Jim Tansey.

OLYMPIC: Meier 6; Rogers 6 (Svinos 60m), Coady 6, Dakos 6, Phillips 7; Jennings 6, Kothalos 6, Patikas 6; Kousas 6, Soper 6, Petalis 6; Coach Manfred Schaefer.

Heidelberg defenders Don MacLeod and Ian MacKie will miss this week's final league game after getting booked late in this entertaining encounter.

But their cautions were premeditated affairs and far from being rebuked for their misdemeanors, they went out on the slippery park with instructions to get yellow cards by coach Jim Tansey.

Tansey explained, "Both Don and Ian were nearing the 12 maximum penalty points and I told them both to get booked so they can miss the

coming match against Newcastle.

"Our cup semi-final against South Melbourne Hellas soon is the more important fixture — we have little to play for in the league and I wanted them to go into the cup tie with a clean record rather than have to worry about avoiding cautions."

"Both played well and managed to get booked as well but Don took his task literally and I decided to whisk him off as soon as he got booked rather than run the risk of a sending-off which would have ruled him out for two matches."

The little side-show apart, Heidelberg built on its unbeaten record under Tansey and by the end of the day climbed to sixth spot on 40 points after languishing in the lower half of the table since the 13th round of the season.

The team revelled in the wet conditions, slamming three goals in the closing eight minutes of the first half and building a 4-0 lead after the break before Olympic got its solitary goal from the penalty spot towards the end of the match.

Gary Cole, who became the proud father of a baby girl on Friday, celebrated by opening the score in the 37th minute from a penalty awarded for a foul on Derek Lea who was brought down by Mike Coady as he ran into the area on a through pass from Jim Campbell.

Scott Patterson netted his first ever goal in the NSL four minutes later, on jumping everyone in a crowded penalty area to head home Mike Valentine's corner kick.

Campbell added the third right on halftime, controlling a square pass from Theo Selemdis to hammer a shot from outside the box which went in off keeper Gary Meier's foot.

Derek Lea, Heidelberg's busiest player, got his name on the scoresheet after the break swooping on the ball after Coady slipped, to round the keeper and shoot home despite a despairing lunge on the line by Tony Dakos in which he got a hand to the ball.

Olympic, despite its array of stars, is playing bad now — if not worse — than it was when coached by Tommy Docherty, and Manfred Schaefer may find it hard to retain his coaching position next season if the rumblings from the Olympic committee are any indication.

The team lost Martyn Rogers with an ankle injury on the hour mark and the full-back was carried from the ground on a stretcher making it unlikely that he'll recover for the final game against Preston.

Rogers' replacement, Arthur Svinos, soon was involved in a series of three shots which forced keeper Jeff Oliver into the two best saves of the match.

Oliver parried Jim Patikas' initial shot, Terry Patikas had the rebound blocked by a defender on the line and the keeper recovered in time to make the third save from Svinos.

Olympic finally pulled a goal back in the 67th minute when MacLeod brought down Peter Kothalos in the area and Manfred Schaefer slammed the resultant penalty kick high into the net.

Has Senkalski ended Hakoah's title hopes?

Newcastle 1 Syd. Hakoah 0

Scorer: Senkalski 36th.

Venue: International Sports Centre.

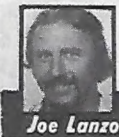
Crowd: 2750.

Referee: Tony Boskovic 7.

Cautions: 36th Mason (N), 67th J. Watson, 70th Mullen, 71st Kay (SH).

NEWCASTLE KB UNITED: Gosling 7, Meier 7, Burke 8, G. Watson 8, Tredinnick 8, Lee 6, Senkalski 7, Mason 7, Jones 6, Lowe 7, Mountford 7. Cowburn replaced Senkalski in 71st.

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Pezzano 7, Mullen 7, Cant 7, O'Connor 7, Robertson 8, J. Watson 8, Gomez 7, Kay 8, Murray 7, Kosmina 6, Boden 6. Borges replaced Mullen in 72nd.



Joe Lanzoni

Sydney Hakoah started the game showing the local side that it was meaning business, and for the first 20 minutes led the KB United defence a merry dance.

Aided by the hard work of Paul Kay and Joe Watson in midfield and the pace and experience of Willie Murray on the left, Sydney City forced the local side to concede a string of corners that were scrambled away by the defence.

However, for all this superiority we had to wait 23 minutes to see a clear cut chance. Once

again it was Murray that walked around Maier, made ground, before cutting the ball back to Kosmina whose attempt to score was blocked. Kay picked up the loose ball and his shot from five metres was deflected by a defender for a fruitless corner.

From that sidemoment on, Newcastle gradually got into the game more and more.

Two minutes later KB put the first promising move together when David Lowe tested Tony Pezzano with a first time volley after being served by Senkalski.

Shortly afterwards, Grant Lee switched the point of attack to the left but Howard Tredinnick's shot was well wide.

Newcastle finally broke the deadlock when it — scored what proved to be the winning goal. Again it was Tredinnick who had come well forward and his left foot cross was helped along the way by Mountford to an unmarked Senkalski on the right and the classy midfielder had no trouble beating Pezzano with his right foot shot.

Senkalski almost repeated

the dose just on the stroke of half time when the old combination of Tredinnick overlapping, and Jones, produced a cross which was cleared to Senkalski lurking outside the penalty area but this time Pezzano saved the nasty situation.

The second half saw Sydney City throw everything at Newcastle in search of the equalizer and at times the game got a bit billing, forcing referee Tony Boskovic to produce yellow cards to Watson, Mullen and Kay making it a total of four for the match, after having booked Craig Mason in the first half.

However, when they were needed, most Sydney City strikers were conspicuous by their absence.

As the game progressed, the tension started to take its toll on the Sydney City players, and for 45 minutes of sustained pressure, they rarely troubled Clint Gosling, who handled his work quite confidently and looked in trouble only once in the second half with 13 minutes to go when Murray shot the ball straight into his arms from close range. With that chance, the championship possibly slipped out of Sydney City Hakoah's hands.

\$100,000 IN TWO DAYS

Wollongong City and Newcastle United have revealed sponsorship deals worth more than \$100,000.

Laurie Kelly, president of Wollongong, announced at inaugural citizens lunch that a two-year sponsorship valued at \$70,000 had been signed with Kern Construction, who are at present building a big shopping centre in Wollongong.

Newcastle secretary Pat Clarke revealed that favorable discussions had been held with Carlton and United Breweries and sponsorship negotiation should be completed within the next 10 days.

"We have been assured the immediate crisis has been resolved and the company has given us certain undertakings. Our future looks much more promising after the talks and we are hopeful of getting a \$30,000 sponsorship for next season," said Clarke.

Wollongong raised more than \$5,000 at the luncheon and had on display a model of the stadium it hopes to build with government support.

"We are negotiating with the Federal government for the land which is in Fairy Meadow and have made a submission to the state government for financial support," said Wollongong secretary John Vlietstra.

"With support from the government and local people we hope to build a stadium similar to St George in Sydney, with two outside grounds and parking for 400 cars.

"It's ambitious but if we don't try we will never get our own ground."

The future of Newcastle had depended on the meeting with CUB which had to decide whether to continue the sponsorship it inherited with its recent takeover of Tooth and Company.

Clarke said the club had been facing possible closure if the negotiations had not been successful and withdrawal would have ended a six year association.

"We were given a good hearing by CUB and our next step is to try to finalise arrangements for a ground for next season. We will be talking with administrators of the International Sports Centre on usage for next year and will have Adamstown Oval in reserve if they are not satisfactory," he added.

But Wollongong hit back with an equaliser three minutes from half time when Cotton put the ball away after beating two men.

In the second half, the Lions took the initiative but, with kipper Dunleavy in dominant form, the Wolves managed to hold out for their 15th draw of the season.

This match might have been the last for O'Connor in the Wolves' colors.

Several clubs have shown varied degrees of interest in the striker and he has said he will leave the club if he gets the right offer.

Lions destined for last place

Wollongong 1 Bris Lions 1

Venue: Wollongong Show-ground.

Scorers: Wright (BL) 26th; Cotton (W) 42nd.

Crowd: Approx 1000.

Referee: Power 9.

WOLLONGONG: Preston 7 — Muhlbauer 7, Dunleavy 8, Vlietstra 6, Kerr 8 — Willis 7, Ainsworth 7, Dummett 7 (Dickson), McBreen 7 — Cotton 7, O'Connor 8.

BRISBANE LIONS: Beaves 7 — Vasquez 7, Nivan 7, Hunter 7, McLure 7 — R. Stewart 8, Hogg 7, (Anderson), Vincent 8 — Wright 7, Daunt 8, J. Stewart 7.

Wollongong City appears



Philip Micallef

to have succeeded in avoiding the championship wooden spoon after holding companion-in-distress Brisbane Lions, to a 1-1 draw.

The Wolves, who have finished their 1983 league commitments, have two more points than Lions. But the Queenslanders have a game in

hand and must beat title-chaser South Melbourne Hellas on Sunday at Richlands to overtake the Wolves.

In a physical match played in muddy conditions, Wollongong started briskly but after the interval the visitors pined on the pressure, making the 1-1 draw a fair result which should please both sides.

Socceroo striker Phil O'Connor had another good game for Wollongong so did sweeper Chris Dunleavy.

O'Connor was unlucky not to open the scoring with a free kick from 20 metres which hit the upright.

In the 38th minute, the Lions took the lead with a goal from Danny Wright after a tragic mistake by young Socorro Ray Vlietstra.

But Wollongong hit back with an equaliser three minutes from half time when Cotton put the ball away after beating two men.

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REMEMBER ME?

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BILL BUCHANAN, 10 Laurelbane Avenue, Bonnybridge Strathgairn, Scotland.

Polonia to visit Hobart

By WALTER PLESS

Victorian State League side, Polonia, will visit Tasmania later this month to play a Hobart Select XI. The match will be played at 4 pm on Saturday October 29 at Taroona-St Mirren's ground.

The Hobart side will be managed by John Michniewski, the former White Eagles and Polish first division goalkeeper. It will include players of the calibre of Steve and Phil Kanegisser (Rapid-Wrest Point), John Broadhouse (Juventus Pioneer), Perry Forster (Olympia) and Andrew and Mark Leszczynski (White Eagles).

Andrew Leszczynski is one of Tasmania's most promising youngsters and was selected

sentative team last month, together with Glenorchy-Croatia's Ibro Cahut, who also is expected to line up in the Hobart team.

Leszczynski has had offers from Brisbane Lions and one other NSL club and may move interstate before the beginning of the 1984 season.

Polonia, which finished in sixth place in this year's Victorian State League competition, last visited Hobart two seasons ago. The team is expected to be at its strength for the coming visit and Hobart fans can therefore again expect to see top player Stefan Mila in

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APPLICATIONS CLOSE NOVEMBER 30

Brilliant lead-up to the finale!

St. George 2 Marconi 2

Venue: St George Stadium.
Crowd: 2870
24th min. Brown (M) 45th
min. Barton (SG) 79th min.

Referee: Rampley 5.

Scorers: M. O'Shea own
goal, 15th min, Wilkinson (S &
G) 24th min, Brown (M) 45th
min Barton (SG) 79th min.

ST. GEORGE BUDAPEST:
Greedy 6, Sken 7, M. O'Shea
4 (Petkovski 71st min), Rat-
cliffe 7, R. O'Shea 7, Stone 7,
T. O'Shea 7, Barton 7, Slater
7, Wilkinson 7, Marton 6.

MARCONI: James 7,
Djordjevic 8, Calderin 7, Han-
derson 8, Bazzani 7, Serment
7, McCulloch 7, Carbone 6,
Brown 7 (Jankovics 70th min),
Winn 8, Licata 7.

Robert Ludlum, Alfred Hitchcock or Agatha Christie couldn't have dreamt up a better thriller than the heart stopping finish to the 1983 NSL, and quite possibly its most spine-tingling episode was this thrillingly exciting and captivating clash last Sunday.

Far from behaving as disinterested onlookers at the championship race, the Italian club moved heaven and earth to deny the points to Arok's men.

From the kick off it was constant action, with the goals of both teams under continuous pressure.

With all the top-notch action going on, it was something of an anticlimax to see the scoring opened with a monumental muck-up on the part of the nor-

mally ultra-reliable Mike O'Shea.

It came from a misjudged backheader in the 15th minutes, which caught goalie Greedy napping, off his line.

The unfortunate further side-effect of the own goal was O'Shea's seeming inability to get a trip on himself for the rest of the match, even after the equaliser just nine minutes later.

Ginger-headed winger Slater raced down the right wing, to float across a nicely judged ball which curled away from goalie Bruce James' grasp.

"Thank you very much," was the natural reaction of lanky Paul Wilkinson, who neatly headed the ball into the net.

But, as I said, Mike O'Shea was still at sixes and sevens,



Peter Scott

almost managing to "create" another Marconi goal with a badly fluffed header, which Carbone somehow managed to sky.

With the action, swinging back and forth with great regularity, there was never a dull moment, but it was noticeable that Budapest combined better in attack.

The wily Dez Marton especially was in his element, con-

tinuously creating scoring opportunities for his team mates with pinpoint passes.

And still, as if to prove the glorious uncertainty of soccer, Marconi managed to gain the lead right on the half-time whistle.

Rod Brown and Terry Greedy were in a race for a defence-splitting ball, which was won by the Marconi striker, but only just.

He managed to send the ball goalwards with the Budapest goalie stranded but its pace was only a trickle, which just managed to cross the line into the net ahead of the desperately chasing defenders!

The first big chance after the teams turned around was in front of Marconi's net, but Stone failed to capitalise on good work by Sken and Wilkinson.

Marconi pressed dangerously especially on a number of occasions when Jovan Djordjevic raced out of defence, regularly outpacing his opposite numbers in the Saints' rearguard.

Matters were further enlivened by three colossal refereeing mistakes in offside decisions, each of which could have decided the match!

Just as Hungarian fans began to despair of their chances to stay in the title race, Mark Barton slammed a great shot past James for the equaliser.

There were an extra four minutes of play, due to the earlier unexpected appearance of a spotty brown dog, affording Dez Marton a chance to score a goal which probably would have meant the NSL championship, but his grand spring ended in failure.

It is almost impossible to single out individuals in this grand spectacle, even though there were many notable shortcomings in the technical aspects of the game.

But Djordjevic was marvellous, as were Marton and Henderson.

Steve Winn also proved to be a constant thorn in the side of the Budapest defence.

Rene Licata showed excellent skills, which made the first half living hell for David Sken, but faded somewhat in the second half.

A perfect summing up of the current state of NSL soccer's affairs was provided by Frank Arok's postscript to the match:

"I only want to be on top of the ladder once during the season — after the last match!"

Sips, slides for Wests, skill for Makedonia

Makedonia 3 West Adelaide 0

Scorer: Ollerton 43rd, 65th, & 84th.

Venue: Connor Reserve.
Crowd: about 1000.

Conditions: cold and wet; pitch waterlogged.

Referee: Chris Bambridge 10.

Cautions: Todorovski, Opa-

sinis (Mak), Konstantopoulos, Brown (WA).

PRESTON MAKEDONIA:
Wilson 7 — Opa-sinis 8, Jones 7, Todorovski 7, Petrovski 9, Iliovski 8, Flavell 9, Odzakov 9 — McMillan 9, Lucchesi 9, Ollerton 9. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS:
Sproul 9 — Dunn 7, Hiern 7, Honeyman 6, McGreggor 7, Papazoglou 5, Atsalsas 5, Manou 5 — Heys 6, Brown 4, Konstantopoulos 4 (Stam-topoulos). Coach: Peter Koukizos.

Although the ball was stopped continually by sheets of water on the sodden Connor Reserve pitch, Makedonia's players still managed to show a high level of ball skill which West Adelaide Hellas was unable to match.

In fact, you felt embarrassed for the South Australians as Makedonia knocked the ball around in intricate patterns, making Hellas chase shadows — or rather, waves.

I lost count of the number of one-twos played by Makedonia — and most of them came off, despite the conditions!

Coach Peter Ollerton — who scored all three goals — always has maintained that Makedonia is at its best in the wet. His biggest wish now, is that it rains in Sydney for the final match against Sydney Olympic on Sunday.

George McMillan, the dominant figure of the match, said: "I loved the conditions. I didn't even raise a sweat, even though I reckon I put in a fair effort."

That's an understatement! McMillan would have had at least two goals had it not been for brilliant saves by Gary Sproul, he was involved in almost every attack, and he kept springing up again like some jack-in-the-box after being dumped — and he copped quite a few knocks, I can tell you. When the ball was lost on the forward line, invariably it was McMillan who would win it back with a tackle.

Claude Lucchesi offered himself for every ball controlled it with slick touches and laid on two of the goals for Ollerton with fine passes.

Ollerton played much of the match on the left wing — a de-

Laurie Schwab

liberate play to draw Robbie Dunn out of the middle — but, moved inside at strategic times for those three goals of his. In addition he, like so many of his team mates, he played some delightful stuff that defied the elements.

Gordon Flavell, back after a two-week suspension, won everything in midfield, and Zarko Odzakov, apart from displaying all facets of his superior ability as usual, gave Ollerton the neat cross which resulted in the second goal.

And what about Ijube Petrovski! He stormed forward like a steam train from his full back position, getting involved in most of the build-ups, and dealing almost contemptuously with his direct opponent, George Konstantopoulos.

Con Opa-sinis did his usual sound defensive job on Hellas' only danger man, Graham Heys who battled hard but got little done.

Makedonia's centre backs, David Jones (who almost didn't play because of illness) and George Todorovski were solid without having much to do, while goalkeeper Richard Wilson stood around shivering most of the time, apart from a few Hellas flurries, like the one in which Tim Brown hit the crossbar late in the game.

Hellas surprised us all by lining up with Graham Honeyman in the sweeper's position! What a waste, in a team so painfully short of experienced, creative players.

Honeyman tried hard enough, but he looked completely out of place.

Ian McGreggor, Brenton Hiern and Dunn also put in considerable effort, but the defence they formed simply was outplayed by the Makedonia forwards.

In midfield, Hellas offered very, very little. Papazoglou, who was supposed to be marking Odzakov, didn't have a hope, but to his credit he did get involved in a few promising forward moves later. Chris Manou and Steve Atsalsas ran around looking lost most of the time, and up front, Tim Brown and Konstantopoulos couldn't trace a trick.

Makedonia had enough chances to score 10 goals, but Sproul proved a formidable

barrier. In the first 15 minutes, he stopped a shot by McMillan one-handed, then foiled McMillan again with an even better save, and dived to stop a header from Ollerton.

Opa-sinis and Lucchesi came close with shots laid on for him by Ollerton and McMillan respectively, and then came a great move by Makedonia which again was stopped by Sproul.

McMillan played a long diagonal from defence to Lucchesi at the half-line. Lucchesi raced past McGreggor, with Honeyman the only Hellas defender left in front of him. McMillan meanwhile, made a run parallel, through the middle accepted a pass from Lucchesi, took his shot, and watched in despair as Sproul caught it spectacularly.

Then, two minutes before half time, came the tiebreaker. Lucchesi slipped the ball to Ollerton on his right, and Ollerton scored with a low shot that skimmed through the water, past the groping fingers of Sproul.

Just after half time, Papazoglou came close for Hellas, with a shot that bounced badly in front of Wilson, making it difficult for the Makedonia goalkeeper who, however, managed to save it.

Iliovski had that unbelievable miss in the 61st minute, and a few moments later, sent a low shot skimming just wide.

Ollerton headed No. 8 from Odzakov's cross from the left in the 65th minute, and a mistake by Honeyman should have resulted in another.

Honeyman turned and sent a back-pass towards Sproul, but the ball stuck in the water.

McMillan latched onto it and ran unchallenged, towards goal, at an angle. He could have scored here, but decided instead to send a square pass to Lucchesi, Sproul however, got his fingers to it and pushed it away.

A good piece of refereeing by Chris Bambridge, who put on an excellent performance in the conditions, enabled Makedonia to score its third goal six minutes from the end.

McMillan, contesting a high ball, was brought down from outside the penalty area by a free kick, Bambridge paid the advantage, as Makedonia still had the run of the ball. It went to Lucchesi who pushed it square across goal for Ollerton.

Midway through this period it was Egan yet again, all alone and with one player on the line — Mark Brown — but Egan's shot hit Brown and bounced out.

Seven men will decide which eight clubs are to be added to the NSL to make up the new 24-team format next year.

Four clubs from Sydney are to be admitted to a 12-team northern region, and four clubs from Melbourne are to be added to make up a 12-team southern division.

Seven men make up an ASF screening committee. They are: NSL chairman Sam Papanicolaou, NSL manager Sam Kamz, ASF commercial director Peter Sheehan, NSL vice-chairman Tony Lebozetta, ASF secretary Brian Emery, the President of the NSW Federation, Karl Rodery (or his successor) and the President of the Victorian Federation, John Dimitsis.

This recommendation has to be ratified by the ASF members.

HUMMEL THE HERO



Ricky Rosso

**Canberra 3
Bris. City 2**

Scorers: Christopoulos, Farina, Byrne (C), Hughes, Hummel o.g. (BC).

Venue: Spencer Park.
Crowd: about 1000.

Conditions: Hot.

Referee: Bill Monteverde 8.
CITY: Wishart 7, Kowtan 5, Perry 8, Liddell 7, Wilkinson 7, Caird 6, Fabrizio 8, Hughes 7 (Falco H.T. 6), Bromfield 6, Glockner 6, Cairney 6.

CANBERRA: Hummel 6, Murray 6, Ambrosino 7, Byrne 8, Young 6 (Shields 71st), Redmond 7, Christopoulos 8, Gibson 8, Farina 7, Perenevic 8, McLaren 7.

An unexpected goal, a bril-

liant goal and a missed goal highlighted Canberra's 3-2 win over Brisbane City at Spencer Park.

The unexpected goal was in the 17th minute when Canberra keeper Chris Hummel turned towards his goal and dropped a Luciano Fabrizio corner-kick behind the goal-line.

The brilliant goal was a scorching 25 metre volley from George Christopoulos in the second half after a pinpoint Phil Redmond switch ball.

The missed goal was a saved penalty as Hummel went from the villain to the hero of Canberra's win.

City got the penalty with three minutes to go after Referee Bill Monteverde overruled an offside flag, claiming in the quickness of play, that Falco had been played on at the vital time, and pointed to the spot as the City youngster was thrown to the ground in a wild tackle by Terry Byrne.

Billy Wilkinson, one of the few experienced players now in the City side, was elected to take the kick, and although he struck it well, he put it higher than what he had hoped and Hummel, who also certainly

moved early, was able to dive to his right and parry the ball away.

It was a shattering blow for City, particularly after it had lead, by two goals after 20 minutes and the youngsters were playing with the flair Coach Jim Hermiston has predicted for several weeks now that they would eventually produce.

After racing to a quick lead thanks to the gift Hummel goal and a well worked long throw in finished off by Alan Hughes a minute earlier, City faltered just before half-time.

Although "Christopoulos' goal was unstoppable, the fact that he was allowed to run so far without a close marker before his volley is something which needs correcting.

Although the goal was a setback, the real blow came only seconds before half-time when City lost Hughes with an ankle injury.

Hughes had been having a big game in midfield, providing the flair to complement the enthusiasm and work-rate of Caird and Fabrizio.

With the task not looking as hopeless as it did earlier, Canberra started the second half with considerably more purpose and a fine Kim Wishart save denied Canberra an equaliser after only 10 minutes.

But the writing was on the wall and it was no surprise when the visitors eventually did level the scores, and on this occasion Wishart was perhaps to blame.

As Byrne floated in a free-kick to the near post, Wishart yelled: "Away!". His defence moved out, as ordered, which allowed Frank Farina to ghost in to the near post to head the ball and deviate it just enough to beat the City keeper.

City rallied to the Canberra challenge, and should have wrapped up the match in a spell midway through the half.

But Canberra finished the stronger of the two sides and netted the winner with eight minutes to go. And Byrne deserved the wiper on his fine showing once again in Brisbane.

Had City netted the penalty, a draw would have been a fair result, but there are no excuses for a side which does not take its chances.

EGAN OFF TARGET

**A.P.I.A. 0
S.M. Hellas 0**

Crowd: 2,500

Referee: Richie Lorenc 8

Yellow cards: Bertogna, Blair, Butler, Carter, Egan

Wooddin, Bottalico.

A.P.I.A.: Parks 8, Carter 6, Brown 7, Bottalico 6, Mariani 8, Bertogna 6, Bradley 6, Butler 7, Morsello 6, P. Tredinnick 7, Sharne 6.

SOUTH MELB. HELLAS: Laumets 7, Russell 6, Xanthopoulos 7, Blair 7, Davidson 7, Halford 6, Murphy 7, Crino 8, Wooddin 7, Yeandorn 7, Egan 5.

Hellas striker Charlie Egan, will remember this match against APIA for a long time for it was Egan who had simple opportunities to score goals, give Hellas the three points and inevitably the championship for 1983.

But, alas, it was not his day. During the first stanza Egan showed little but lived up to the second half to elude APIA defenders on numerous occasions.

With nine minutes gone in the second half it was Oscar Crino who pushed a brilliant through ball for Egan and Parks looked Beaten. Egan rounded the keeper, then inexplicably shot over the bar.

Midway through this period it was Egan yet again, all alone and with one player on the line — Mark Brown — but Egan's shot hit Brown and bounced out.



Alex Vesic

With 17 minutes to go Wooddin pushed another through ball for Egan and the way looked open but he went too wide then squared the ball into the area, only to see Bertogna clear.

And while Egan missed, it would be fair to say that other visiting forwards were in the same mood. Wooddin missed in the 57th, left-footing past the upright, then Steve Blair missed after a scrumage inside the box.

With only 10 minutes to go, Crino looked set to score following a free kick by Yzen-dorn, but his low shot from some seven metres was brilliantly saved by Parks, then cleared by Mariani with Egan just inches short of pushing it into the net.

Well, it was all Hellas in the second half, but as so often happens in football, nerves played the biggest part and those Hellas shooters just lost their cool when needing it most.

APIA offered a Lambert Park covered in flowers with grass some six inches tall in places, a bumpy surface and dressing rooms not fit for the

sixth amateur divisions. However, one must give this bunch of APIA fighters credit for their gutsy performance and fighting spirit which kept them in the match.

Sharne Bertogna missed for APIA during the first period, then Yeandorn cleared off the line soon after the restart from a shot by Sharne, but that apart the home side defended with vigor.

I was surprised to see Branko Buljevic run up and down the line for the last 20 minutes of the match yet not get on the park. He was the man who had the coolness and composure to convert the chances which came the visitors way. I am sure that Len McKendry knew that but it is beyond me why Buljevic was wasted in that situation.

As it was Hellas could only reflect on the chances missed and hope that the effort of the last 15 weeks is not wasted. An incredible effort indeed, which deserved more than a miserable draw.

Richie Lorenc showed seven yellow cards, an obvious intent to stop hard tackles, but I had the impression that some were teased too harshly while others escaped.

Still, it was entertaining despite the pitch and despite the toughness displayed, with Crino the mastermind of the Hellas attack and Bertie Mariani the man who stopped most of them. Wooddin, Peter Tredinnick, Ken Murphy and Terry Butler also had good games.

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Just over 10 years after being expelled from the VSF, Melbourne Croatia is set to stage the most remarkable comeback in Australian soccer history by gaining entry to the most prestigious league in the land — the NSL.

Croatia's history is colorful, to say the least, and confusing too. It involves five clubs — Ukrainian Soccer Club (USC) Lions, Hajduk, Preston, Croat and the club known as Croatia which competed in State League in 1963 and again in 1965, until its controversial exclusion from federation ranks.

It all started with the old Croatia club which was formed back in 1953 and played for two years in the Provisional League. In 1955, Croatia finished second to Brunswick, finishing fourth in 1957.

Hajduk enters the tale in 1956, winning the Metropolitan North title, with Lions again finishing second on goal average. Hajduk's success lifted it into the Third Division, finishing fourth in 1957.



Frank Burin: Mackay best

Former president, secretary and team manager, Frank Burin, says that Croatia will be one of the few NSL clubs next year, able to draw fans at away games as well as at home.

"There are well established Croatian communities in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Newcastle, Wollongong and Canberra and these people will come to watch us for sure," said Burin.

"I did the final draft of our application for NSL inclusion next year and I pointed out that we have the resources and the capacity to go into the National League and assist and contribute to the development of soccer in Australia."

Burin presently is on the State League board of man-

agement, the full VSF board of management and is the federation's second delegate to the ASF executive. He has served on various VSF sub-committees and was chairman of the state squad sub-committee in 1980 and 1981. With the exception of a short period in 1981, Burin has represented Croatia at VSF level since 1976.

He was born in Zadar in Croatia in 1938. He spent a year and a half in Italy before coming to Australia in 1957. Shortly after his arrival, he became involved with Croatia, which then was based in Geelong. The club made Melbourne its headquarters at the end of 1961 and Burin was club president in 1962. He served as secretary from 1963 to 1970, didn't seek re-election in 1971 but was called back to the club late that year to take on the team manager's duties.

Croatia's expulsion from the VSF in 1972 ended Burin's involvement in administration until the club

end of Hajduk, which amalgamated with Lions in 1959. The new club was called Lions-Hajduk for just one season, then reverted back to Lions. The merger carried Lions into First Division North, alongside Croatia, which had got there by winning promotion.

At the end of the 1959 season, Croatia was sitting at the top of the table, set for promotion to State League. However, there had been a long dispute over a Preston v Brunswick game that ended in a 1-1 draw. A few weeks after the season's end, the VSF ruled that Brunswick played an ineligible player in that match, therefore the points were awarded to Preston, enabling it to pip Croatia for the title.

This disappointed many Croatia officials, including Enver Begovic, who was later to become chairman of the VSF. Begovic, Radojevic, Marinov and Florescu virtually took over Preston, which had until then been run by Hungarian brothers J. and H. Liepold. Nine players also switched to Preston from Croatia. They included Dukic, Romol, Horvath, Gregovic, Tanjoni and Silvar.

A re-organisation of leagues resulted in Croatia playing in First Division North in 1960, and Lions playing in Second Division North. Croatia finished the season in fifth spot, while Lions clinched the championship.

So Lions joined Croatia in First Division North for the 1961 season. Meanwhile, Preston had finished second bottom in State League in 1960 and was relegated to First Division South for the 1961 season. That was when Preston became Preston Croatia, meaning that you had Croatia and Lions in the north division and Preston-Croatia in the south.

Lions won First Division North in 1961 by a point from Fiorentina. Croatia was a further two points away in third spot. Preston-Croatia won First Division South by nine points from Brighton. So both Lions and Preston-Croatia had won to promotion to State League for the 1962 season.

Feeling left out, Croatia moved away from Geelong to the Maribyrnong Speedway, determined to be successful. Frank Burin was Croatia's president in 1962. Other officials included Tony Duraj, Branko Trostok, T. Jakobovic, I. Matkovic, V. Simek, S. Silver, J. Jakovic, N. Matijevic, P. Madzar and N. Drk.

Preston Croatia also made a major change, dropping its old name and adopting the name "Croat" instead.

While Coat and Lions struggled in State League in 1962, finishing third last and second last respectively, Croatia won the First Division North title, finishing with 39 points, five more than Box Hill.

Now the Croatian community was faced with the prospect of having two clubs in State League. That was out of the question, as one would rob the other of support. The problem was solved by amalgamation. The new Croatia club stayed at the Maribyrnong Speedway. Begovic was president, Burin was secretary, Harry Miska was treasurer and I. Marinovic was chairman.

Lions switched to Montgomery Park, Essendon, and was later to be known as Essendon Lions.

Lions finished the 1963 State League season in eighth spot but Croatia finished second last, ahead of Richmond. Begovic and Richmond boss Adam Pfeiffer, took legal action against the VSF, claiming that there had been an agreement that the two last-placed clubs should have the right to play off against clubs coming up, to decide the promotion-relegation set-up.

The VSF argued that no such agreement existed and won, meaning Croatia and Richmond had to take the big drop.

Croatia, featuring many top players including the Vojtek brothers — Bill and Jim — Horst Rau and Ollie Norris, won the First Division championship and was promoted back to State League for the 1965 season.

MELBOURNE



Croatia, just after clinching the 1983 State League Cup. Back row: Eddie Musferovic (committee), Oase Latif, Drago Deankovic, Ante Bilaver, Steve Gajovic, Rob McIlrae, Jozo Antolovic, Peter Blasby, George Hannah, Joe Sigur (president), Vlado Pras (team manager). Front row: Frank Zepovic (committee), Zdravko Jurcovic, Keith Adams (captain), Tommy Cumming (coach), Josip Biskic, Jeff Faulkner, Marty Bazic, David Brogan, Tony Curcio.

MEET THE PLAYERS

who generalises the side from the back. Reads play extremely well, a ferocious tackler and great clubman, he was signed from Ringwood Wilhelmia in 1979 for \$2,500. Has represented Victoria. Now well established as one of the finest sweepers in State League.

ANTO BILAYER (defender): Croatia's longest-serving present player. He joined Lions from Shepparton City in 1974, a year before Croatia took over Lions. A very tough player whose ability on the ball often is underestimated. A loyal servant to the club and a fine competitor.

GEORGE HANNAH (defender): Signed for \$5,000 from Hellas this year. Like Bilayer, Hannah takes no prisoners. He's an ideal defensive player for he can play either at full back or as stopper. His presence this year has added both quality and depth to Croatia's first team squad.

JOSIP BISKIC (midfielder): Joined from BSK Slavovski Brod in 1982, and has really blossomed this season. His close ball skills have treated Croatia fans to a superb spectacle in 1983. A true ball player who can score as well as make goals. The most out-

standing right sided attacking midfielder in the league this season.

JOZO ANTOLOVIC (midfielder): Signed from NK Olimpija Osijek last year. Adds bite to Croatia in midfield but let's not forget that this tall, athletic player is skilful too. His partnership with Biskic is a delight to watch and he has had a consistent season.

JEFF FAULKNER (midfielder): Hit a low in 1981 when he was virtually discarded by Preston Macedonia for the latter part of the season. Joined Croatia in 1982 for a \$5,000 transfer fee and has regained the prestige he had enjoyed with Macedonia's State League championship winning team of 1980. A talented and intelligent player. A class midfielder.

STEVE GJOJEVIC (midfielder): At just 18, this immensely skilful and elegant youngster is widely tipped to become one of the finest players in Australian soccer. His performance in the State League Cup final against Ajax had to be seen to be believed. What a future he's got! He's a product of Croatia's juniors.

DAVID BROGAN (forward): Croatia's leading scorer for the

past two seasons with 18 league goals in 1982 and 21 this year. Signed from Croydon City in 1981 for \$6,500 and has represented Victoria. Comes off defenders well, gets his turns in and is a deadly finisher. A top flight striker.

TOMMY CUMMING (forward): Hailed as the best player in Australia a couple of years ago even though he has yet to play in the National League. An aggressive runner, skilful too, respected by every defender he comes up against. Took over as player-coach recently and leads the only way he knows how — by example. One of the outstanding players to play in this country in the past decade.

OSSIE LATIF (forward): Signed from Keilor Austria in 1982 for \$7,000, a huge sum for a teenager. Still is developing and has an outstanding future. He is reputed to have the hardest shot in State League and has represented Victoria at youth level.

DRAGO DEANKOVIC (utility): Joined from NK Rijeka last year. Can play either in defence or up front. He was injured earlier this year and was unavailable for over 10 games. He joined Croatia with a

high reputation and if fit, could live up to it next season.

RICHIE MC CLUNIE (forward): Signed from Morfa Falcons this year for a \$1,500 transfer fee. Tall, tanky, good the air, but has great close control, a feature of his game; often appreciated. Has found team chances hard to come by this season but is a proven State League goalscorer.

GEORGE RADMAN (defender): A product of Croatia's juniors. This tall, strong central defender is just 18 and still developing. Is being groomed to take over as stopper in the first team and has represented Victoria junior level.

MARTY BOZIC (defender): Other junior product. Has playing sweeper in the reser this season, the position he seems to suit. Before that, played in midfield. He reads p well and has fine ball disposal skilful player and one which club hopes will develop into regular first teamer.

ROBERT MARKOVAC (forward): Many good judges of ju talent think that 16-year-old Markovac will be an outstanding performer. He was in the Victorian youth team which contes the national youth champions Canberra earlier this year. A promising striker with a genuine goalscoring record in ju soccer.



Jimmy Mackay



Billy Vojtek

Annual meeting Nov 20

Croatia is administered by an eight-man executive committee, headed by president Joe Sigur, who runs Victoria Smallgoods.

Sigur's vice-presidents are Steve Mandekic, a petrol station proprietor, and Chris Govic, a building contractor. Eddie Musferovic, a supervisor with a machinery company, is club secretary.

A party!

Croatia players, officials, wives and girlfriends will be guests of Metro Jurisic, licensee of the Pier Hotel in Williamstown, this Sunday.

His assistant, Marijan Gama, is a building contractor.

Davor Filipovic, an engineer, is club treasurer. His assistant, Steve Barac, is an electrical contractor.

The other executive member is team manager Vlado Pras. Croatia will hold its annual general meeting at the Croatian community club in Footscray, on November 20, starting at 3pm. The club's annual presentation night will be held at Broadmeadows Town Hall on November 19. The night kicks off at 7pm and runs till 2am.

PETER BLASBY (goalkeeper): Joined from Heidelberg Alexander in 1979 in a deal involving Yanka Banovic leaving Croatia. Has been almost a permanent fixture in goal ever since. Superb reflexes and positions himself well.

ROBERT MCRAE (goalkeeper): Joined from Waverley City in 1981 for a \$500 transfer fee. Young, with a lot of potential. Tall, lean and one to keep your eye on for the future.

TONY CURCIO (defender): Signed from Juventus for \$3,000 in 1982. Skilful and very fast. Recovers well. Seen at his best overlapping and whenever he plays right back, his partnership with Josip Biskic down that flank has been one of Croatia's strengths.

SEAN PARTON (defender): A real bargain buy. Signed from J.U.S.T. for \$300 last year. Was playing with Dandenong City in 1979 when he linked up with Steve Blair to form a formidable defensive barrier for the Victorian youth team which won the national championship. Made his mark in State League in 1980 with Frankston City as a right back. Switched to J.U.S.T., the following year but never got a chance to show his worth. Has been a tremendous replacement for stalwart stopper Steve Kokoska, who retired at the end of last season.

KEITH ADAMS (defender): Captain and sweeper. The man

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, then a great comeback

that year, 1965, was the turning point for both Croatia
Lions. It pointed Croatia towards success and Lions to
mutual failure.

Croatia started the season by losing six of its first seven
games. It's reply was to spend five thousand pounds (a
sizeable sum in those days) on new players and it finished
the season in sixth spot.

Lanny McMeekin, Bobby McLachlan, Bill McIntyre,
Brian Adams, Joe Keenan, Ian Currie and Duncan
Kay were bought in one of the biggest and best
urges yet in the Victorian transfer market.
McMeekin finished the season as Croatia's leading
r. Other players that year were Wright, Rau, Bot,
si, Matijevic, Chetkoff, Kovacek and Billy Vojtek. The
at Jimmy Mackay joined at the end of the season.

Lions finished second last. The final table read: Hellas
points; George Cross 32; Juventus 30; Slavia 29;
S.T. 26; Croatia 25; Hakoah 23; Polonia 21; Wilhel-
mina 18; Melbourne 12; Lions 8; Triestina 6.

Croatia consolidated in State League in 1966 and fin-
ished third in 1967 while Lions finished third bottom.
The following year, 1968, was filled with success for
Croatia. The club won its first State League title, and

added the Dockerty and Ampol Cup to its honors list.
Croatia finished the league season with 33 points, followed
by Polonia on 26, Hellas on 25 and Hakoah and Lions both
on 24.

In 1969, Croatia retained the Dockerty Cup, beating Ju-
ventus 3-1 in the final. However, Croatia had to be content
with finishing in fourth place in the league.

In 1970, Croatia featured Ray Wixey, Bobby Symington,
Brian Williams, Ivica Turic and Joe Rahner, in addition
to regulars Vojtek, Mackay, Gunn, McIntyre, McArthur
and Kovacek. It also was the year Frank Bot retired.

Croatia finished fourth in the league while Lions were
near the foot of the table.

The following year, 1971, was the most disastrous in
Lions' history. The team went 15 games before scoring its
only win of the season and it took 873 minutes of play
before Eddie Butler managed the team's first goal of the
league season.

Lions 0-6 loss to Wilhelmina was the biggest of the season.
In recording only one win and scoring just 10 goals,
Lions created record "lows" which still stand. While
Hellas recorded only one win this season, it scored 23
goals. In 1973, Box Hill finished the season with just two
points: both from draws, but scored 12 goals.

Croatia, on the other hand, enjoyed success in 1971. It
started off by winning the Ampol Cup final 5-1 against
J.U.S.T. Croatia also won the Intercity Ampol Cup
against Western Suburbs of Sydney, with McIntyre not-
ching a hat-trick. And in the State League Cup final,
Croatia downed Hellas 3-2.

While Croatia finished the league in third spot, it won
the reserves title on goal average from Wilhelmina and
Hellas.

Croatia started the 1972 season by winning the Ampol
Cup but this was to be the last year of the club's existence
until late 1975.

Everything went smoothly until there was a crowd dis-
turbance during a match at Olympic Park against Hakoah.
As a result, the VSF expelled Croatia from the federation.
Croatia fought the decision through legal channels but to
no avail.

Meanwhile, Lions struggled in First Division, finishing
third last.

Croatia, of course, lost many star players. Vojtek went
to Sydney Croatia, Mackay to Hakoah-Sydney, McIntyre
to Hellas and Kondorios, Turic and Hadjivadi to Kellor-
Australia.

Although they no longer had a soccer team, Croatia of-

ficials continued to have weekly meetings every Tuesday,
as well as picnics and other social functions, waiting for
an opportunity to get back into soccer.

In July, 1974, Tony Vrzina was appointed coach of
Lions. It was a move which eventually led to the Croatian
take-over of Lions. That take-over was completed in 1975.
A total of \$25,000 was handed to the Victorian committee
as compensation for the money it had spent on Monlgom-
ery Park, Essendon.

A new committee was setup involving people connected
with the defunct Croatia club. Vrzina was president-man-
ager and Duz Zemanik was coach. The first thing the
new club's leaders did was to change the team's colors
from gold and blue to the Croatian colors of red, white and
blue. Essendon Croatia finished sixth in 1975.

At the start of 1976, former Croatia junior, Branko
Culina, was transferred from St. Albans. Vrzina also ne-
gotiated the purchase of dual Rothmans Medalist John
Gardiner for \$6,000 from George Cross, the highest trans-
fer fee paid by a Metro club.

Croatia finished third in the league and reached the
semi-finals of the Dockerty Cup. As a result of the for-
mation of the National League, the top four First Division
clubs were drafted into the State League for 1977. Essen-
don Croatia was one of them. The others were Altona,
Frankston City and Green Gully Ajax.

Ivan Luburic had headed the committee in 1976 but
stepped down during 1977. Joe Sigur was the new presi-
dent. Frank Burfin was team manager. The club's come-
back almost was complete. In just five
years, it had got back into State League and was about to
set the Victorian soccer scene alight with one of the most
amazing trophy hauls in the history of the game in that
State.

Sigur left the committee in 1978 and Joe Solic was presi-
dent in 1979. Ivan Marin was president in 1980 and for a
short period in 1981, Ivan Pavlovic was at the helm until
Sigur's return.

During this period a host of good players wore Croatia
colors as the club came to be recognised as the leading
light in State League. These players included Gardiner,
Steve Kokoska, Ivan Grujicic, Brian Davidson, Yalka
Banovic, Eddie Krncevic, Alan Kerr, Kenny Murphy,
Steve Short, Carl Gilder, Noel Mitten, Joe Tront, Keith
Adams, Tommy Cumming, David Brogan, Grant Smart,
John Kennedy, Howard Jandrews, Ante Blavner, George
McMillan, Paddy Bannan, and a host of others.

Gardiner was player-coach in 1978 until a dispute arose
between him and the club and Bill McArthur became
coach. Croatia won its second State League championship
and also won the Ampol and State League Cups.

Brian Edgley was coach in 1979, until being replaced by
Gardiner in July of that year. Croatia was third in the
league when Gardiner took over but eventually won the
title for a second successive season. Krncevic was trans-
ferred to Marconi for \$9,000 and Yalka Banovic, that out-
standing goalkeeper, joined Heidelberg in a deal involving
cash and the appearance of goalkeeper Peter Blasby in
Croatia colors.

For the second successive year, Cumming won the
Rothmans Medal.

Gardiner was still player-coach in 1980. While Croatia
had to settle for runner-up spot in the league, it was hailed
as the cups king that year. It defeated National League
club Heidelberg Alexander 2-1 in the final of the Ampol
Cup with goals from Gilder and Murphy. Then came
perhaps the most incredible Dockerty Cup final ever.
Croatia was facing up to Juventus and although Croatia
started favorite, no-one envisaged a stunning 7-0 scoreline
at the end of this match.

But Cumming wasn't there to take part in the Dockerty
and State League Cup wins. He had been injured in a So-
ccero training camp in Sydney, aggravated the serious
pelvic complaint playing for Victoria against AC Milan
early in the season and was to be sidelined until the start
of this year.

Gardiner joined Green Gully Ajax at the start of the
1981 season and Rocco Ile was coach du shortly after the
Ampol Cup, Ile and the committee underwent an upheav-
al. Sigur took over again as president and Len McKendry
became coach.

Paddy Bannan had been signed from Heidelberg Alex-
ander for the 1981 season and after McKendry left to
return to Heidelberg Alexander, the club he had led to
victory in the 1980 National League top four series, was
one Croatia's five coaches that season. The others, apart
from McKendry and Ile, were Duz Zemanik and Fred
Bunce.

McArthur was coach once more in 1982. For about 12
games. He refused to lose sole selection responsibility
and was replaced by Mijo Kis, who had coached Croatia 10
years earlier.

Croatia finished second in the league, its third suc-
cessive such placing. Gardiner was signed as player-coach
for this season.

Again Croatia finished second. Gardiner was sacked,
along with assistant coaches George Train and Joe Spol-
jar, just three weeks ago and Tommy Cumming appointed
to take over for the State League Cup and Dockerty Cup.

So far, Cumming has enjoyed great success. Croatia
walked arch rival Ajax 4-0 in the State League Cup final
with outstanding displays from Josip Biskic, Steve Goje-
vic, Jeff Faulkner and Jozo Antolovic.

— LAURIE SCHWAB & CRAIG MAKKENZIE

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1962 — First Division champion
1964 — First Division champion
1965 — Runner-up Dockerty Cup
1966 — Armstrong Cup winner
1968 — State League champion,
Dockerty Cup winner, Ampol Cup
winner, beaten finalist in Intercity
Ampol Cup.
1969 — Dockerty Cup winner,
runner-up Armstrong Cup.
1971 — State League Cup winner,
Ampol Cup winner, Intercity Ampol
Cup winner.
1972 — Ampol Cup winner,
beaten finalist in Intercity Ampol Cup.
1977 — Ampol Cup winner, Am-

strong Cup winner, runner-up Dock-
erty Cup.
1978 — State League champion,
State League Cup winner, Ampol Cup
winner.
1979 — State League champion,
Dockerty Cup winner, State League
Cup winner.
1980 — Dockerty Cup winner,
State League Cup winner, Ampol Cup
winner, State League runner-up.
1981 — State League Cup winner,
runner-up State League
1982 — Runner-up Dockerty Cup,
runner-up State League.
1983 — State League Cup winner,
runner-up, State League.

THE CROATIA

Sigur wants to win NSL title



Joe Sigur

Joe Sigur, 44, set
to become the first
president to lead
Melbourne Croatia
into the National
League, says that his
club will be the big-
gest in Australia in a
few years and won't
rule out the possi-
bility of Croatia win-
ning the National
League champion-
ship at its first at-
tempt.

"First you need luck, then
you need to be very, very good.
We need two, maybe three
players at the most. We have
some players in mind but we'll
have to wait and see what our
coach for next year thinks.
We've spoken to a few people
about the coaching position but
we won't make a final decision
for a while yet," said Sigur.

"We won't be changing our
name for anybody though. We
are Croatia. That's the way it
always will be. We offer the
National League a high stan-
dard of skillful soccer, and a
huge following. We deserve to
compete with the best.

"I'm just sorry that we've
not had to wait this long before
getting a real chance to go into
the National League. When I
look back, I realise that I
made a mistake when I left the
committee in 1978. If I had
been president in 1980 we
would have been included in
the National League before
Preston Makedonia."

Sigur was born in Patrjina
in Croatia. He spent six
months in Austria in 1961
before coming to Australia and
joined the committee of
Croatia soccer club in 1964,
serving the club faithfully until
his expulsion from the VSF in
1972.

"We know who the people
responsible for that are and
they should be ashamed of

themselves. I felt sick at the
time. It's hard to put into
words. It was a very sad way
for a top club to finish, but we
stuck together and we never
gave up. That's why we are
where we are today. I'm proud
of my club and the people in-
volved in making it great
again."

Sigur first became president
in 1977. He was confident in his
ability to do the job but he re-
signed in 1978.

"A few people upset me at
the time. I had done so much
for the club but some people
didn't respect me for that. I
decided to concentrate on my
business interests."

Sigur returned early in 1981
after a committee upheaval
which saw president Ivan Pav-
lovic standing down. Sigur
took over for his second term
as president.

"I really missed not being
officially involved with the
club over these few years. I
love soccer. That's the only
sport I follow. I don't gamble
and I have few other interests.
Soccer is part of my life. When
some people got together and
asked me to come back I was
happy to do so."

Sigur felt that changes had
to be made. He felt that the
players were unhappy. Rocco
Ile had resigned after the
Ampol Cup series and Duz
Zemanik was caretaker coach.
The crowd had dwindled, with
star players like Billy Vojtek,
Yalka Banovic and Eddie
Krncevic transferred to other
clubs. Sigur had to act and act
quickly.

Sigur and his committee
hired Len McKendry as coach.
"I thought that McKendry
was a good coach. That's why
we hired him. I still say that
he's a good coach. We had
problems with the players then
too. Some had been with the
club a long time and it was
hard to change their attitude.
They had to be replaced and
that's eventually what we
did."

When McKendry left to
rejoin Heidelberg Alexander,
Paddy Bannan took over as

player-coach. When negotia-
tions between Bannan and
Sigur's committee over a
more permanent appointment
broke down, Fred Bunce was
hired. He lasted one game.
Croatia hammered Sunshine
City 5-1 but Bunce was sacked.

"We had a meeting with
Bunce when we gave him the
job and we told him that we
were having problems with
some players, especially Carl
Gilder. It wasn't a matter of
committee interference. We
have the right to suspend
players and Gilder was sus-
pended from the first team.
Bunce seemed to accept that
but when I got to the game
on Sunday, Gilder was on the
bench for the first time. I
couldn't believe it. Then

Gilder started warming up
late in the game. That was
enough for me. Bunce had to
go."

Bill McArthur was hired as
coach in 1982. Croatia was on
top of the league after eight
games, two points clear of
Ajax. Then it lost 4-2 to Ajax
at Green Gully Reserve. McAr-
thur was told to accept a selec-
tion panel after the match. He
refused. He was sacked.

"Even though we were on
top of the league when McAr-
thur left, a blind man could see
that there were problems with
the team. We hired Mr Kis and
I have to tell you that he is an
absolute gentleman. He's the
best coach I've seen over the
years, but he had been away
from soccer for a long time



Croatia's outstanding under-13 team which won the Super League title and Northern Regional Cup this year. Back row: M. Hrkac (team manager), A. Gragic, N. Koljatic, M. Hrkac, F. Valentinc, A. Stipic, P. Krnjacic, M. Karozza, F. Monforte (coach). Front row: A. Kralovic, K. Marovic, K. Cerin, J. Lipari, J. Jurcic, T. Magdic. Missing: R. Gaspar.

This was Croatia's first year in the under-13
Super League and what a successful one it

was! Ascot Vale Pizza Restaurant donated a
new strip for the boys and for that, the club is
most grateful.

The season started on a sour note, when
Richard Gaspar broke his leg in the first
league game. Coach Monforte, team manager
Hrkac and all the lads, wish Richard well and
they're looking forward to seeing him back in
action next year.

Stars of the future

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It's Croatia by a whisker Hillmen to make history

Les Shorrocks and Jack Stephen should be made honorary life members of Box Hill and Ringwood Wilhelmina, for it was these two soccer scribes who made the draw for Sunday's Dockerty Cup semi-final double header at Olympic Park.

Shorrocks and Stephen were invited to make the draw last Sunday after the Olympic Park quarter-finals. Others present, were VSF secretary George Wallace, Ajax treasurer Arnold Langer, Croatia's State League delegate, Frank Burin, and VSF publicity officer, Lou Stafrace.

While only too willing to witness a fair and open draw, it was a slightly peeved Shorrocks who told me later: "They used Jack Stephen's deerslayer hat in preference to my tartan bonnet!"

Stephen had first pick, drawing Wilhelmina's name out of his hat. Shorrocks was next and out came Box Hill's name. Langer and Burin were dumbfounded. A VSF official faintly suggested that he could drop Box Hill's name back into the hat and have another pick. But the other witnesses refused to fiddle the draw.

"Now you can go back to your paper and tell them that we don't fix Dockerty Cup draws," said Wallace to Shorrocks.

Not now, and may the days of such fixing rest in ever lasting peace.

So we find ourselves with Croatia and Ajax, the two glamor teams of State League, clashing in the second semi-final on Sunday.

Shorrocks tips an Ajax victory. "Soccer Action" editor Laurie Schwab says that Croatia will win. Peter Desira went for Box Hill. Really. He scratched his head, re-adjusted his glasses about five times, wrinkled his brow, then refused to make a prediction about the Croatia v Ajax clash.

Clever bloke that Desira. I wish I was able to wriggle out of this as easily.

This will be one of the highlights of the season. There can be little doubt about that. The key to this game could lie at the feet (the foot, to be more accurate) of Croatia player-coach Tommy Cumming. He'll have to play and play well, if Croatia is to win.

Cumming didn't seem in any discomfort during Croatia's 4-0 state League Cup final victory against Ajax, despite needing a cortisone injection before the match due to a hairline fracture in a foot. He had planned to rest the injury until the final, expected to be against Ajax until the Shorrocks-Stephen gang pulled off their coup last weekend.

Cumming now has been forced to play. If he can perform, Croatia can win. I'm convinced that the team isn't nearly as effective or confident without Cumming. Jeff

Moncur

Bobby Moncur, the former Newcastle United and Scotland defender, has quit as manager of Plymouth Argyle and get a \$40,000 handshake into the bargain. New Plymouth boss may be Alan Dicks who was manager of Bristol City for about 12 years and has recently been in charge of Greek club Ethnikos.

Mooroolbark

Metro Fourth Division outfit Mooroolbark will hold a Nostalgia Night in its Esther Park clubrooms on Saturday, October 22.

The present clubrooms are soon to be demolished and new rooms, valued at about \$150,000, built.

Mooroolbark past players will take on the club's present players at 4 pm on the Saturday. The Nostalgia Night kicks off at 8 pm for \$4 a head. A band and full canteen facilities will be in operation.



Victorian State League with CRAIG MACKENZIE

Faulkner too will be back after missing the quarter-final against Morwell through suspension. That means Croatia will be at full strength.

Croatia was prepared to mix it with aggressive Ajax in the State League Cup and will have to do so again. But this time, Ajax will be at full strength. In the State League Cup final, Willie Vassallo, Ajax's Player of the Year, was unavailable and young Fabio Manicelli played.

Ajax won't be caught on the hop here. It knows that Croatia players are prepared to get stuck in. Nevertheless, if Cumming does well, I'm going for Croatia. By a whisker.

The first semi-final at headquarters, featuring Ringwood Wilhelmina and Box Hill, kicks off at 1.15 pm.

McGuinness sent off

MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 MORWELL FALCONS 0. After extra time, Croatia won 4-2 on penalties. Dockerty Cup quarter-final. Second game of a double header at Olympic Park, Sunday. Referee: Upjohn J.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Blasby 7 - Curcio 6, Hannah 7, Patton 7, Blavus 5 - Diskic 6, Antolovic 7, Adams 8, Golevic 5 - Last 5, Brogan 7. Coach: Tommy Cumming.

MORWELL FALCONS: Whiteside 0 - Plummer 7, Irvine 7 (inj), Leckey 7 (inj), Higham 7, Bingham 6, Young 8, MacLean 7, van Baar 7 (inj), Constable 8 (inj) - Mitten 8, McGuinness (sent off 27th). Coach: Tony Boggi.

When striker Bobby McGuinness was sent off for alleged foul and abusive language in the 27th minute he took with him whatever chance Morwell Falcons had of winning this game in normal time.

Nevertheless, Falcons fought and fought hard against the almost constant pounding from Croatia for the remainder of this match and eventually went down in a penalty shoot-out.

This was a very determined Morwell side. Indeed, the spirit displayed by the Falcons players could have been put to good use earlier this season and there can be little doubt that if these players had shown such fight consistently this season, Falcons would have finished far higher up the State League ladder.

Brilliantly led by goalkeeper Bill Whiteside, playing probably his last game with Morwell, the Latrobe Valley outfit, once reduced to 10 men, simply refused to give in and Croatia was unable to exploit its numerical superiority.

This probably was coach Tony Boggi's last game in charge of Falcons. The club recently flew Jimmy Dunne out from the U.K. to interview him for the coaching position for next year and it is believed that Dunne has accepted the job.

Falcons' best chance of the match fell in the

GREEN GULLY AJAX 3 (Boyle 55th, Toal 58th, Paul Lewis 61st) CROYDON CITY 0. Dockerty Cup quarter-final. First game of a double header at Olympic Park, Sunday. Referee: Fokianos 7.

GREEN GULLY AJAX: Denys 9 - Peter Lewis 6, Short 8, Donald 7, Hogben 6 - Vassallo 6, Boyle 9, Williams 7 - Toal 7, Smallman 6, Paul Lewis 8. Coach: David Smallman.

CROYDON CITY: Kastner 5 - Marley 6, Singleton 6, Dobson 5, Hobson 5 - Brown 7, Rooney (Rainey 6th), Wade 7 - Irvine 7, Sweeney 8, Macleod 6 (L. Loughnan 6th). Coach: Ted Dilworth.

It took six minutes of Ajax magic to win the club's semi-final berth. In that time, three goals were scored and Croydon's hopes of an upset were dashed.

Ajax looked a lacklustre outfit in the first half while Croydon turned in a determined display. Nevertheless, Ajax came closest to scoring right on half time, when Gary Hobson's headed ball, pass back to Lou Kastner but, unfortunately for Croydon, the ball struck the upright and bounced back into play.

Ajax went into overdrive in the 55th minute and six minutes later, led 3-0.

The Hillmen really impressed me against Falkner last weekend. If they can maintain the discipline and spirit they showed in that match, they can reach the Dockerty Cup final. If so, they would write themselves into the history books. According to our records, which include an extensive club history written by Lynn Patterson, Box Hill never has reached the Dockerty Cup final.

I think a new chapter in that history will be written at Olympic Park this Sunday. Box Hill coach Bill Murray has a pleasing selection problem - how to fit talented, tough midfielder Richard Miranda into the line-up. Miranda, the former Preston Macedonia player, missed last weekend's match due to injury but resumed training this week.



Skinhead power? Morwell's Joe Plummer (left) chases Croatia striker Oassie Latif at Olympic Park on Sunday. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

Murray's on the ball

BOX HILL 3 (Verocchia 21st, Hughes penalty 23rd, penalty 83rd) FAWKNER 1 (Brownlie og 11th). Dockerty Cup quarter-final. Second game of a double header at Wembley Park, Sunday. Referee: Venios 6.

BOX HILL: McKinnley 7 - J. Roodhouse 7, Brownlie 6, Lawler 7, A. Roodhouse 7 - Hughes 8, Tolmie 7, McDonald 8, Ramos 7 - Verocchia 6, Priestley 8. Coach: Bill Murray.

FAWKNER: Terzini 8 - Giacomi 6, Fattore 7, Konderios 6, Sabbadini 5 - Palinkas 6, Bozakis 5, Anselma 6, Sennipoli 6 (Vassanov M.T. 5) - Verocchia 6, Schipano 6. Coach: Cido Cirkovic.

Box Hill coach Bill Murray started preparing his players for their semi-final clash immediately after the Hillmen's decisive 3-1 quarter-final win over Falkner.

News spread quickly around the Wembley Park clubrooms that the Hillmen were drawn to meet Ringwood Wilhelmina in the semi of the 1983 Dockerty Cup. Murray sensed the dangers of a poor mental attitude straight away.

Murray moved about his players, re-assuring them of the strength of opponent Wilhelmina. He didn't want over-confidence to gnaw like a cancer at his players' approach to this vital game.

The second quarter-final here, between home side Box Hill and Falkner, loomed as a great contest between the teams that fought out the First Division title last year and finished a point apart in State League this year. However, after the first 15 minutes, it was no contest.

At that time, Falkner was leading 1-0. It looked sharper from the outset with Tony Schipano giving Ian Roodhouse a few problems. It was Schipano who broke clear in the 11th minute, on the left of the area, and sent a firm drive into the Hillmen's goalmouth, which led to the opening goal. Mel Anselma was charging in and just missed to connect. So did Ian Tuffield, with Donald Brownlie at his back. The Box Hill stopper however, deflected the ball into his own goal off the far post and Falkner had got the start it was searching for.

A few minutes later, Pedro Ramos played a superb through ball to Peter Verocchia. Everyone expected an offside flag to be waved but the linesman let play continue. Even Verocchia seemed surprised and he failed to control the ball cleanly when only confronted by Rob Terzini.

Verocchia though, was about to make his mark on the match, and what a game he had. His powerful running, both on and off the ball, was a highlight. Falkner really missed Bruno Sabbidussi in midfield. He injured knee ligaments in a tackle with team mate Cesare Fattore at training on the Tuesday before this game and was operated on last Saturday.

Ramos' pressure was rewarded with two goals in two minutes, which took a lot of the fight out of Falkner.

A Tolmie corner in the 21st minute was headed at the top post by the sweeper Donovan Lawler and Verocchia, sliding

Bill Buchanan great but Burton wins it

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 1 (Burton 89th) DOVETON 0. Dockerty Cup quarter-final. First game of a double header at Wembley Park, Sunday. Referee: Gaut 8.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Lee 7 - Brooks 8, Pena 7, Meyer 8, Haupt 7 - Bakker 7, Burton 8, Gibson 7 (inj), Lange 8 (inj) - Thum 7, Garvey 7 (inj, Nyholt 8th), Stewart 7. Coach: Rudi van Alben.

DOVETON: Ryan 7 - Hill 7, Buchanan 8, Corke 7, Waite 7, Jones 6 (M. Keogh M.T. 6), Watson 7, Webster 7, Miller 6 - Waterhouse 7, Stinton 7. Coach: Hammy McMechan.

Young Doveton goalkeeper Adam Ryan made just one mistake in this match and it was enough to allow Barry Burton to put Ringwood Wilhelmina into the Dockerty Cup semi-finals.

Extra time was odds on when Wilhelmina left back Graham Houghton got forward down the left and crossed. Ryan should have stayed in goal but he came off his line, with no chance of reaching the ball first, and Burton neatly headed over the stranded keeper to make it 1-0 with a minute of normal time remaining.

Ryan, until then, had done everything right. His handling, especially in the air, was excellent. So too was his positioning, until that fatal moment late in the game.

Don't however, think that Wilhelmina stole this match. Quite the contrary. If had more of the play and should have wrapped up the game earlier.

With John Dowie injured, Steve Gadsby and Greg Kivie cup-tied, Mark Lennon suspended and Peter Thurlow at a wedding, Doveton fielded a makeshift line-up. Mario Hill and Carlos Waite were the fullbacks. Shaun Jones was on the right side of midfield and Geoff Waterhouse partnered Ian Stinton up front. The doves had just one outfield player on the bench - Michael Keogh.

When Wilhelmina's keeper, Shaun Jones was on the right side of midfield and Geoff Waterhouse partnered Ian Stinton up front. The doves had just one outfield player on the bench - Michael Keogh.

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SOCCER AROUND THE WORLD

Belgium qualifies, Turkey gives Germans a hand

Belgium continued its remarkable success story of recent years when it became the first nation to join host France in the 1984 European Championship Finals.

The Belgians, runners-up to West Germany in the 1980 competition in Italy, dropped its first point in Group One when they were held to a 1-1 draw by Scotland in Glasgow.

But as Switzerland, the only side with a remote chance of pipping them on goal difference, had gone down 0-3 in East Germany earlier in the day, the Belgians arrived at Hampden Park safe in the knowledge that win, lose or draw, they were assured of a visit to France.

The night's five other qualifying ties all proved inconclusive, although Denmark, Yugoslavia and The Netherlands improved their chances with vital wins.

West Germany, though it was not in action, also got the result it wanted when Turkey scored an unexpected victory over Northern Ireland in Ankara, leaving the hosts as hot favourite in Group Six.

Belgium took the lead against Scotland when Franky Vercauteren scored with a fine opportunistic goal in the 30th minutes.

Scotland had long since lost all interest in this competition, but, with the 1986 World Cup draw only eight weeks away, it roared back in a bid to impress manager Jack Stein.

And its pressure finally paid off in the 49th minute thanks to the exciting Charlie Nicholas-Kenny Dalglish partnership.

It was the \$1.3 million Arsenal striker who started the move by intercepting a weak clearance from Michel Wintako. Nicholas exchanged passes with Dalglish, rounded Belgian goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff and tucked the ball neatly into the gaping net.

European Championship results:

New Italy

Italy's recent 3-0 victory over Greece marked the end of an era.

Only three members of the Italians' World Cup winning side—Paulo Rossi, Bruno Conti and Antonio Cabrini—played in Bari and it now appears certain that Italy's future lies with the new breed, the most prominent of whom are Carlo Ancelotti (Roma), Bruno Giordano (Lazio), Giuseppe Dossena (Torino) and Salvatore Bagni (Internazionale Milan).

These four, plus the Mundial survivors, are likely to form the backbone of an Azzurri team capable of defending its crown with honor in Mexico.

— PAUL MOON

THIRD EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1966/68

Group One

Ireland - Spain 0-0, 0-2.
Turkey - Spain 0-0, 0-2.
C'vakia - Spain 1-0, 1-2.
Ireland - Turkey 2-0, 1-2.
Ireland - C'vakia 0-2, 2-1.
Turkey - C'vakia 0-0, 0-4.
Qualified: Spain

Group Two

Norway - Bulgaria 0-2, 0-2.
Bulgaria - Sweden 3-0, 2-0.
Bulgaria - Portugal 1-0, 0-0.
Portugal - Sweden 1-2, 1-1.
Norway - Portugal 1-2, 1-2.
Norway - Sweden 3-1, 1-5.
Qualified: Bulgaria

Group Three

USSR - Austria 4-3, 0-1.
USSR - Finland 2-0, 5-2.
Greece - USSR 0-1, 1-4.
Finland - Austria 0-0, 1-2.
Greece - Austria 4-0, 1-1.
Greece - Finland 2-1, 1-1.
Qualified: USSR

Group Four

Albania - Yugoslavia 0-2, 0-4.
W. Germany - Yugoslavia 3-1, 0-1.
Albania - W. Germany 0-0, 0-0.
Qualified: Yugoslavia

Group Five

Holland - Hungary 2-2, 1-2.
Hungary - Denmark 6-0, 2-0.
E. Germany - Hungary 1-0, 1-3.
Holland - E. Germany 1-0, 3-4.
E. Germany - Denmark 3-2, 1-1.
Denmark - Holland 3-2, 0-2.
Qualified: Hungary

Group Six

Italy - Rumania 3-1, 1-0.
Italy - Cyprus 5-0, 2-0.
Switzerland - Italy 2-2, 0-4.
Switzerland - Cyprus 5-0, 1-2.
Cyprus - Rumania 1-5, 0-7.
Rumania - Switzerland 4-2, 1-7.
Qualified: Italy

Group Seven

France - Poland 2-1, 4-1.
Luxembourg - France 0-3, 1-3.
Luxembourg - Poland 0-0, 0-4.
Poland - Belgium 3-1, 4-2.
France - Luxembourg 3-1, 1-1.
Belgium - Luxembourg 3-0, 5-0.
Qualified: France

Group Eight

N. Ireland - England 0-2, 0-2.
England - Wales 5-1, 3-0.
England - Scotland 2-1, 1-1.
Wales - Scotland 1-1, 2-3.
N. Ireland - Wales 0-0, 0-2.
N. Ireland - Scotland 1-0, 1-2.
Qualified: England

Quarter-finals

England - Spain 1-0, 2-1.
Bulgaria - Italy 3-2, 0-2.
France - Yugoslavia 1-1, 1-5.
Hungary - USSR 2-0, 0-3.

Semi-finals

Italy - USSR 0-0.
Yugoslavia - England 1-0.
* Italy won by toss of coin.

Match for Third Place

England - USSR 2-0.

Final

Italy - Yugoslavia 1-1 (after extra time)

FINAL Replay

Italy - Yugoslavia 2-0 (2-0) (Riva, Anastasi).

ITALY - YUGOSLAVIA (2-0) (2-0)

ITALY: Zoff, Burghini, Facchetti, Rosato, Guarnieri, Salvadori, Domenghini, Mazzola, Anastasi, De Sisti, Riva.

YUGOSLAVIA: Pantalic, Fazligic, Damjanovic, Pavlovic, Paunovic, Holcer, Hozic, Trivic, Musanovic, Acimovic, Djadic.

REFEREE: Mr Ortiz de Mendabit (Spain).

Attendance: 66,700

Group One standings

Kiwis home after

GROUP TWO

The Soviet Union beat Poland 2-0 (halftime 1-0) in Moscow.

Scorers: Danyanenko (10th minute), Blokhin (62).

Attendance: 72,500

Group Two standings

draw in a pre-olympic qualifying match which developed into a massive brawl at the Taipei City stadium.

It was the final match in the

GROUP THREE

Denmark beat Luxembourg 6-0 (halftime 4-0) in Copenhagen.

Scorers: Michael Laudrup (17, 24, 69 mins), Preben Elkjaer (37, 58), Allan Simonsen (41).

Attendance: 64,700

Group Three standings

It also beat Taiwan 2-0 in its first encounter. Japan beat Taiwan 2-0 and later drew 1-1 in the second game.

In last week's encounter, rough play by both teams in the second half sparked a massive fist fight that was

GROUP FOUR

Yugoslavia beat Norway 2-1 (halftime 2-0) in Belgrade.

Scorers: Yugoslavia - Zlatko Vujovic (21st min), Susic (40).

Norway - Thorsen (88).

Attendance: 10,000

Group Four standings

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which some sports writers said was "regrettable and shameful."

Almost all the players from the two teams took part in the brawl which lasted about three minutes.

GROUP SIX

Turkey beat Northern Ireland 1-0 in Ankara.

The goal was scored by Selcuk after 17 minutes.

Group Six standings:

Taiwanese goalkeeper Lin Chin-Wong excelled.

GROUP SEVEN

The Netherlands beat Ireland 3-2 (halftime 0-2) in Dublin.

Scorers: Netherlands - Gullit (53rd and 70th mins), Van Basten (68th), Ireland - Waddock (6th), Brady (34th, penalty).

Attendance: 35,000

Group seven standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	5	4	1	0	11	5	9
Scotland	5	1	2	2	8	4	4
Ireland	5	1	2	2	8	4	4
Italy	5	1	2	2	8	4	4
Next match: Nov 16 Netherlands v Spain and Ireland v Malta, December 17 Netherlands v Malta, Dec 21 Spain v Malta.							



Italy's Domenghini scores his side's first goal in the quarter final second leg against Bulgaria. Domenghini was to score a similar goal from a free kick in the 1968 final against Yugoslavia.

Dzajic shines but Italy wins it, thanks to Riva

The third edition of the European Nations' Cup attracted a record participation. The 32 teams were split into eight four-team round robin groups.

The winner of each section was to proceed to the quarter-finals.

The competition became known as the 1968 European Football Championship, a name it still holds today.

The British Home countries agreed with the European Football Union (UEFA) to make the two home titles in 1966 and 1967 count for the Cup's qualifying Group Eight.

Holder Spain, rebuilding its team after its success in 1964 against the USSR had no difficulty winning Group One, especially after Czechoslovakia's 1-2 loss at home to modest Elre.

The USSR, winner and runner-up in the competition's first two editions, won 10 out of a possible 12 points in Group Three to qualify easily while Bulgaria, a tough and uncompromising side, won Group Two by edging out Portugal, which had done so well in the 1966 World Cup in England finishing third.

The shock of the qualifying rounds, however, came in Group Five where World Cup beaten finalist West Germany was held to a goalless draw by unrated Albania, allowing Yugoslavia to go through.

Hungary, as expected, qualified from Group Five after a surprise loss away to East Germany, while Italy, fresh from its humiliating World Cup defeat against North Korea, played some good soccer to edge out Switzerland and Rumania in Group Six.

Group Seven winner was France while England overcame a 2-3 loss to Scotland to top Group Eight.

The quarter-final draw was: England - Spain, Bulgaria - Italy, France - Yugoslavia and Hungary - USSR.

England found Spain a stiff opponent in the first leg at Wembley but won with a late goal from Bobby Charlton but in the return in Madrid, Alf Ramsey's boys played some top soccer in beating the Spaniards 2-1.

The Bulgaria-Italy tie has plenty of drama as Asparukov led his team to a 3-2 victory in a packed Levski Stadium in Sofia.

But Italy turned the tables on a defence-minded Bulgaria in the return in Naples by winning 2-0, the second goal coming from a superb diving header from AC Milan left winger Pierino Prati.

Hungary looked a strong bet for a semi-final spot after a convincing 2-0 win over the USSR in Budapest but the Soviets edged out the Magyars by winning the return in Moscow 3-0.

Dragan Dzajic, the Red Star hero, was one of Yugoslavia's best players as the Slavs overcame the French 5-1 in Belgrade after holding them to a 1-1 draw in Paris.

The final series was held in Italy and the Italians and English were tipped to meet in the final.

In the first semi-final in Naples, the USSR played a fine defensive match to hold the Italians to a goalless draw after extra time.

Italy went into the final in the most unconvincing manner - by the toss of a coin.

Later in the evening in Flor-

PHILIP MICALLEF continues the history of the European Championships.

Italians fought desperately for the equaliser the Slavs missed two great chances in quick years.

But Internazionale midfielder Domenghini hit home a typical goal from a freekick just outside the penalty area to save Italy.

The Italians changed five men for the replay two days later and the inclusion of Luigi Riva made all the difference.

Riva opened the scoring for Italy early in the first half and centre-forward Anastasi made it two with a superb half-volley which set the Olympic Stadium alight.

The jaded and demoralised Yugoslavs were unable to match the sharp Italians who



Dragan Dzajic



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THE DOCKERTY CUP SEMI-FINALS

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RINGWOOD CITY v BOX HILL

(First game)

MELBOURNE CROATIA v GREEN GULLY AJAX

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I CLUB CALCISTICI HANNO DEI DOVERI VERSO LA COMUNITA' DA CUI VOGLIONO SOSTEGNO

Con le sconfitte di Morwell e Fawknor nella Dockerty Cup e della Juventus nella Armstrong Cup, e' calato ormai il sipario sulla stagione ufficiale della terza italiana della massima divisione statale.

E' arrivato così il momento di tirare le somme, di analizzare i risultati di quest'annata eccezionale sotto certi aspetti, deludente sotto altri, del calcio italiano nel Victoria. Lo faremo dettagliatamente nelle prossime settimane.

Ma in linea di massima bisogna dire che il calcio è vivo e vegeto fra la nostra comunità di Melbourne, anche, purtroppo, soffre di alcuni gravi scompensi a livello amministrativo. La scena calcistica italiana è anch'essa, purtroppo, soffre di alcuni gravi scompensi a livello amministrativo. La scena calcistica italiana è ancora dominata a troppa approssimazione, da troppe divisioni,

VIVA ITALIA!

with ROCKY DI ZIO



da troppe gelosie. In questo ambiente il tifoso, che è pur sempre la componente più importante di uno sport come il calcio, rimane piuttosto confuso e finisce per diventare deluso.

La mentalità prevalente negli ambienti amministrativi della maggior parte dei club italiani di calcio è ancora molto indietro con i tempi. Si pensa ancora che una "squadra italiana" debba

poter contare automaticamente sull'appoggio della comunità italiana per questioni nazionalistiche, per un dovere sacro. C'è la tendenza a chiedere, a pretendere senza capire il dovere di dare e di offrire qualcosa indietro.

Se guardiamo al calcio esclusivamente come "spettacolo" dovremmo concludere che poche squadre hanno diritto a qualsiasi appoggio perché "spettacolo" se ne vede molto

poco. Se guardiamo invece ai club calcistici come espressioni comunitarie, non possiamo fare a meno di accorgerci che lo "scambio" è tutto a favore dei club. I club chiedono sempre e ricevono molto, molto spesso. Quando però è il momento di "dare" sono sordi o hanno tanti altri problemi.

Anni fa un ben intenzionato suggerì, per esempio, che l'annuale Coppa Italia assumesse anche un carattere comunitario dovendo parte del suo profitto ad un'opera meritevole come il Villaggio Vaccari. La proposta era stata fatta con la motivazione che la gioventù sportiva di oggi ha un certo obbligo morale verso la vecchia generazione di giocatori che con il loro lavoro e la loro onestà hanno creato le condizioni sociali ed economiche in cui oggi possiamo goderci lo sport e tante altre cose che forse nemmeno apprezziamo abbastanza. La proposta fu allora accettata con un generale sorriso che stava quasi a significare "ma questo è matto" e solo l'influenza che il b en intenzionato in parola aveva a quel tempo riuscì a far approvare una "donazione straordinaria" di \$500 al Villaggio Vaccari. Negli anni successivi, naturalmente, della cosa non se ne parlò più e i sedici club continuano a dividersi gli incassi della competizione che, ripartiti in tante parti, ammontano a poche centinaia di dollari ciascuno che lasciano la situazione finanziaria dei club, anche dei più piccoli, più o meno come la trovano.

Il concorso di "Miss Italian Community", giusto per dare un ulteriore esempio, è un'altra iniziativa comunitaria che riscuote l'appoggio quasi generale della nostra collettività, ad eccezione naturalmente del settore calcistico. A nostra memoria nessun club calcistico ha mai

E la lista di "assenze" è talmente lunga, ma anche talmente evidente, che non bisogna dilungarsi oltre ad elencarla. Le amministrazioni dei vari club di calcio che "pretendono" l'appoggio della comunità debbono fare la loro scelta al più presto possibile, dandoci il contributo alle iniziative comunitarie, oppure essere semplicemente attività sportive che vanno sostenute in relazione allo "spettacolo" che offrono.

Oltretutto, anche se fare la carità con secondi scopi non è molto "cristiano", i club calcistici potrebbero rimanere piacevolmente sorpresi dal "guadagno" che farebbero a lungo andare se adottassero una politica di "dare" oltre che di "avere".

Medicare "Assicura" la Coppa Italia. L'ente mutualistico "Medibank", che presto cambierà il suo nome in "Medicare" con il

ritorno al concetto iniziale dell'assicurazione sanitaria universale del vecchio Medibank Standard, darà la sua "copertura assicurativa" all'edizione di quest'anno della Coppa Italia.

Grazie a Max Culuzzi, funzionario del Medicare addetto alle relazioni comunitarie, la competizione calcistica guadagnerà così il suo primo sponsor commerciale oltre alle varie ditte che donano i trofei. Sono al momento in corso trattative per definire la forma di partecipazione della "Medicare" ma fin d'ora non possiamo che congratularci con Max Culuzzi e con la sua organizzazione per aver preso tanto interesse nella competizione come manifestazione comunitaria degna di incoraggiamento. Siamo sicuri che il contributo del "Medicare" causerà quella reazione di cui parlavamo prima, quella cioè che il "dare" spesso produce un "avere" molto generoso e che la comunità sportiva italiana prenderà in grande simpatia l'ente mutualistico nazionale.

IN PERICOLO IL TITOLO DELLA JUVENTUS U18

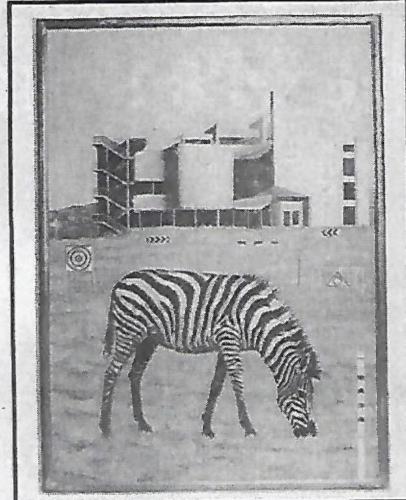
Come tutti sappiamo la squadra U18 della Juventus ha vinto il campionato di categoria appena conclusosi. Quello che invece molti non sanno è che la vittoria è stata per il classico pelo rappresentato da una rete in più nella "differenza reti" rispetto alla formazione del George Cross. Pur d'ordine, la faccenda non sembra sia finale. Il George Cross è andato a controllare i risultati e si è accorto che il risultato della sua partita con la trisina era stato dato come una vittoria per 2-0, mentre invece avrebbe dovuto essere 3-0; la rete in più di quella partita (se veramente c'era) darebbe il campionato al club maltese.

Tutto è possibile in questo nostro calcio, ma che una squadra si accorga di un risultato sbagliato solo mesi dopo della partita è alquanto esagerato. Risultati e classifiche vengono pubblicati ogni settimana su questo giornale, giusto per citare un mezzo di propagazione, e se un errore ci fosse stato avrebbe dovuto essere rettificato allora. Sarà interessante vedere come la federazione si comporterà in questo frangente, che verdetto darà alla protesta del George Cross e come motiverà tale verdetto.

BOGGI LASCIA IL MORWELL

Tony Boggi non allenerà il Morwell il prossimo anno. Il tecnico italiano che aveva assunto la direzione della squadra all'inizio della stagione con grandi speranze ha "gettato la spugna" dopo un'annata a dir poco deludente.

Sia Boggi che la direzione del club hanno capito che è



Alla vista di una bella zebra che pascola su un prato erboso con sullo sfondo un imponente edificio dalle linee modernissime qualsiasi sportivo italiano penserebbe immediatamente agli impianti della squadra zebra, specialmente di questi tempi in cui si è tanto parlato di una tale realizzazione su grande scala. Purtroppo invece tale concezione dell'illustrazione qui sopra è piuttosto prematura.

Si tratta invece di un quadro del giovane pittore italiano Antonio Muratore che ha aperto una sua mostra personale alla Universal Theatre Gallery (17 Victoria Street, Fitzroy) nell'ambito del Festival Italiano delle Arti che si svolge nella nostra città fino al 30 di questo mese. Il quadro è naturalmente in vendita e sarà interessante vedere se ad accaparrarselo sarà un dirigente o un tifoso bianconero.

impossibile per un allenatore residente a Melbourne allenare una squadra che si trova in provincia. E' stato lo stesso Boggi, assieme a Bobby McLaglan ad organizzare la recente visita dalla Scozia di Dunne per rimpiazzarlo come allenatore il prossimo anno andando appunto ad abitare a Morwell. Anche per i giocatori si cercherà di usare lo stesso criterio il prossimo anno poiché si è visto chiaramente che è impossibile avere mezza squadra a Morwell e l'altra metà a Melbourne. L'unico allenamento settimanale fatto da tutta la squadra assieme a Morwell pone un peso troppo pesante sugli atleti che debbono sorbirsi quattro ore di automobile al giovedì sera per raggiungere il resto della squadra.

Per ora ci limitiamo alla notizia del cambio di guardia per il prossimo anno, in una delle prossime edizioni esamineremo più da vicino il fastidioso volo che Falconi spiccarono l'anno scorso e la preoccupante perdita di quota fatta registrare quest'anno.

Intanto la situazione di Boggi rimane un punto interrogativo. Il tecnico italiano, che aveva guidato la Juventus al suo ultimo trionfo nel 1970 e che quindi raggiunse l'apice della sua carriera come allenatore della nazionale, non ha avuto delle stagioni particolarmente felici negli ultimi anni. Qualsiasi giudizio uno possa dare sul valore puramente tecnico di Boggi è innegabile che egli conosca l'ambiente del calcio locale come pochi. Sarebbe un vero peccato perciò se egli, anche a causa delle pressioni derivantegli dalla sua attività

commerciale, decidesse di lasciare la scena calcistica completamente. A nostro giudizio, anche per le sue limitazioni di tempo Tony Boggi è in effetti il miglior dirigente tecnico (o team manager che si voglia dire) in circolazione. Sia lui che i maggiori club di Melbourne farebbero bene perciò a cominciare a orientarsi verso questa direzione.

"PRESENTATION" ALFAWKNER E ALLA JUVE

Il conteggio dei voti per l'assegnazione della Cos Medal al Fawknor, avverrà questo sabato presso la sede del club. Il riconoscimento va al giocatore che su base settimanale ha ricevuto il massimo punteggio da parte di un'aggiunta di tecnici della squadra.

La premiazione annuale del club avrà luogo sabato 12 novembre presso la sala per ricevimenti "La Scala" di Footscray. Coloro che non avessero ancora i biglietti per questa serata farebbero bene a mettersi immediatamente in contatto con qualsiasi membro del comitato. La "presentation night" della Juventus avverrà invece domenica prossima, prima della partenza della squadra per Bali dove prenderà parte al torneo per la "Garuda Cup". Il ballo annuale del club avrà quindi luogo sabato 26 novembre nella magnifica Melrose Reception di Tullamarine che lo stesso Primo Ministro Bob Hawke ha definito recentemente "sicuramente fra le più belle sale di Melbourne". Per biglietti di questa serata ci si può rivolgere qualsiasi membro del comitato o telefonare alla signora Tenace (63 2127 durante il giorno).

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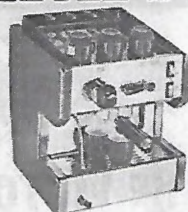
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This Sunday October 23



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(Footscray)

FOOTSCRAY V LEICHHARDT

SCHINTLER RESERVE
K.O. 3 pm

Previous results

'77.....	
'78.....	
'79.....	5-1
'80.....	1-0
'81.....	2-1
'82.....	0-1



SEBASTIAN GIAMPAOLO
(Leichhardt)



SCOTT PATTERSON
(Heidelberg)

HEIDELBERG V NEWCASTLE K.B.

OLYMPIC VILLAGE
K.O. 3 pm

Previous results

'77.....	
'78.....	1-0
'79.....	2-4
'80.....	4-0
'81.....	1-2
'82.....	2-0



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